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Saipan Tribune

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POLL RESULTS

Which do you prefer:
Continued 16-hour work
hour cuts or retrenchment
of 'non-essential'
government employees?

Work hour cuts	36
Retrenchment	76
Neither	27

Sunday, November 07, 2010

INSIDE



Expansion

You can say Saipan Computer Services, Inc. has been super-sized.

Business...Page 13



Mumbai Paradox

The Mumbai slum of Rafiq Nagar has no clean water for its shacks made of ripped tarp and bamboo.

Focus...Page 18



Coco is Ready

Conan O'Brien is ready to reach out and touch the audience in his cozy new studio—if the lawyers don't stop him.

Life & Style...Page 21

Kilili seeks access of DHS personnel to military store on Saipan. PAGE 4
Atty. Torres says DPS used loopholes to circumvent austerity measures. PAGE 6

Fitial also wants desk audit for Finance, DPH

» As freeze in salary hike, reclassification at DPS continue for now

I'm more concerned about revenue-generating agencies like Finance. Those are the agencies that take care of our income and expenses so I really need to have competent, qualified (people) there.

— Gov. Benigno R. Fitia



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitia said he would also like to have a desk audit on the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Health mainly because they are key revenue-generating government agencies, even as his administration has yet to decide on the desk audit recommendations for the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

See FITIAL on Page 4

EDUCATION MONTH

Two Tanapag Elementary School students show a picture of themselves on a campus message board filled with students' own artwork. November, which has been declared Education Month, honors public school teachers and staff in the CNMI for helping shape the lives of the youth. At least 85 nominees vie for nine overall titles, including the most coveted Teacher of the Year.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on Page 2 ➤

OIA's Babauta arrives today; workers prepare for prayer vigil

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Tony Babauta arrives on Saipan today, his first visit since April when he presented the Fitia administration with a copy of the U.S. Department of the Interior report to the U.S. Congress recommending long-term immigration status to foreign workers who have been in the CNMI for at least five years.

See BABAUTA on Page 4



Basa lashes at Senate for rushing to increase taxes, fees

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) lashed at the Senate for rushing to increase taxes

and fees, but Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) said an ad hoc committee on tax enforcement is doing a good job in exploring ways to help generate revenue.

Basa, the guest speaker at the

Saipan Chamber of Commerce's monthly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan in Garapan on Wednesday, told businesses that he will continue to oppose increases in business license fees

See BASA on Page 4



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SVES names outstanding employees

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

San Vicente Elementary School has named Carleen R. Saures and three other individuals as this year's outstanding employees who will vie for the overall title this month in line with the Public School System's celebration of Education Month.

School officials and employees have described Saures—this year's SVES

teacher of the year awardee—as a real asset to the school. She was adjudged for the prestigious recognition for her unwavering patience, dedication, and commitment to students' learning.

Being with her for the past few years, her colleagues observed Saures as an enthusiastic

alleviating self-esteem.

Named as the school counselor of the year was Marsha Arriola, who has been at SVES for the past nine years. Arriola was described also as an asset to the school and her dedication is manifested on the weekly classroom presentation on character



Arriola



Guerrero



Isamu



Saures

teacher. Students look forward to coming to her class because of the hands-on-activities, cooperative grouping, demonstrations and the "generic skills" like problem solving, communication, teamwork, and higher-thinking skills she plans. She could maintain a well-organized, well-supervised class, busily going about in the different learning activities, whether it is individually, by partners, or by group. As an advocate of constructivist instruction, Saures allows flexibility and freedom to provide a positive and student-centered environment, so that they could create their own meaning by acting and doing, rather than listening and repeating. A soft-spoken person, her approach to students is firm and geared toward the attainment of self-discipline, self-respect, and

education such as Peace Builder, mega skills, and virtue that helps students develop their self-esteem.

Saipan Tribune learned that Arriola facilitates the Child Study Team meetings and works closely with classroom teachers in monitoring student's intervention action plan that the team developed during the initial CST meeting. She also provides one-on-one counseling services for students who demonstrate emotional issues which disrupt learning in the classroom and at home.

Lauded as the school's teacher aide of the year was Stephanie DL Guerrero, who has been a Chamorro Carolinian Language Heritage Studies teacher aide at SVES for three years now. She is assigned to teach

See SVES on Next Page

Alla, Adachi, Villagomez are KES' education awardees

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Karen Ann Alla and Kevin Adachi topped this year's education awardees for Koblerville Elementary School. The duo was selected as the school's outstanding teacher of the year and teacher aide of the year who will compete for the CNMI-wide title this month.

Alla was best described by her colleagues as driven, passionate, and an amusing mentor.

Despite the workload of a classroom teacher, Alla is still able to chair the school's Math department, Glee Club, Math Court, and co-chair the accreditation team. She has been instrumental in the school's extracurricular programs, and has close relationships with many of its gifted and talented students.

She is passionate because she loves her job, enjoys working with students, and focuses her goals and expectations for

the betterment of her students. Many students look up to her for advice and support. Her friendly and energetic character makes her one of the most approachable teachers on campus, according to her colleagues.



Alla



Adachi



Villagomez

Alla also integrates fun games and activities in her lessons and gives her students every opportunity to shine using their talents. More importantly, she has a way of getting her students to open up and be more confident.

Adachi, the teacher aide of the year awardee, said despite the many challenges and requirements of this position, all

See ALLA on Page 4

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IN FISCAL YEAR 2010

Retirement Fund posts \$14M 'savings' from drawdown

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund posted significant "savings" from its drawdown in fiscal year 2010.

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez reported to the board of trustees that the Fund posted some \$14 million decrease in drawdowns as of Aug. 31—or a month away from the end of FY 2010.

Villagomez cited government payment of the court-imposed taxes and the increase in employer contribution to 30 percent as key factors in the significant decrease of total withdrawals.

Saipan Tribune learned that total withdrawal to the investment fund as of August was over \$40 million. The board authorized \$54 million in total drawdowns last fiscal year. The bulk was for pension obligations and other benefits to members.

It was in June 2009 when the court ruled that the central government owed the Fund over \$231 million in unpaid employer contribution for many years. Due to this court judgment, the higher contribution rate of 30 percent was ordered as well as the remittance of necessary taxes from

the government. The government's unpaid contribution is now at over \$281 million.

The administrator reported that total investment portfolio as of last month is \$313 million, excluding some monies in the bank as a result of assets that were liquidated and held in the bank to use for the agency's immediate obligations.

The administrator said the Fund has one more final drawdown in September and an estimated \$2 million to \$3 million was withdrawn.

Saipan Tribune learned that drawdown for March was among the highest due to the late remittance of employer contributions by the CNMI government. Fund officials earlier disclosed that the Fund recorded an average monthly drawdown of \$3.3 million.

Villagomez described that the market's performance as good and within the Fund's range.

"In our current asset allocation, we're within the range and total investment assets recorded as of Sept. 30 is \$313 million. I can say that market is doing well since Sept. 30," reported Villagomez during its recent meeting.

The Fund's investment portfolio is expected to go higher when the government pays its debt to the agency.

However, due to the people's disapproval of the pension obligation bond last election, a new payment option and approach must be identified to satisfy the court's judgment.

One of the legislative initiatives in this year's election was the proposal to float up to \$200 million bond to pay the government's obligation to the Fund.

Other efforts such as aggressive collection from delinquent agencies such as autonomous agencies are also expected to help improve the Fund's investment.

The Fund's net assets are invested in stock and money market fund, government bonds, corporate bonds, common

stocks, and hedge fund. Local investments of the Fund includes the Member Home Loan Program, investment in Group

Health Life Insurance, judicial building, and the Commonwealth Government Employee Credit Union.



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SVES

From Page 2

fifth grade. Her commitment and dedication is manifested in her participation in grade level meeting with her team to ensure that she plans a meaningful and exciting learning experience for her students.

It was learned that Guerrero not only serves as a CCLHS teacher aide but is also actively involved in extracurricular activities such as the after school arts and crafts, art work for Parade of Books, Teacher Appreciation Day, Paseo de Marianas Christmas Tree Decoration Contest, Christmas Program, CCLHS PGFC, and Parent Literacy Night, etc. She also volunteered in numerous school

events as well.

Magnetti Isamu is the school's support staff of the year. He is the building maintenance for the past couple of years. He was described as a very hard working individual that requires very minimal supervision. Isamu not only maintains the building safety at the school campus, but he is always extending his help to his colleagues as well.

Isamu volunteers to assist on most of the school's events, such as preparation before or clean up after his regular working hours.

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Feel the difference

Kilili seeks access of DHS personnel to military store on Saipan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan has asked the U.S. Army and Air Force Exchange to allow U.S. Department of Homeland Security personnel cur-

Solomons commission of inquiry under probe

HONIARA, Solomon Islands (Solomon Times/PIR)—In the Solomons, a Police investigation into allegations of fraud and misuse of public funds is currently underway.

Police sources say the corruption and fraud squad is leading the probe.

Sources say a case file has been opened and officers are now talking to those alleged to have been directly involved.

This came as government announced last week it has suspended the Com-

mission of Inquiry (COI) into Guadalcanal Land Dealings.

The decision was taken after cabinet met to discuss the issue.

The Government said the suspension will allow a "taskforce to look into the allegations raised by Counsel assisting the inquiry, Ruth Townsend."

Meanwhile, *Solomon Star* reports Ms. Townsend, who brought to light the allege corruption network, has welcomed the steps taken.

She was quoted as also warning

ing, DHS personnel are authorized patrons of the Coast Guard Exchange System, a privilege established through an informal agreement.

Since the federal takeover of CNMI immigration, there have been numerous DHS personnel on the islands.

certain commission staff against providing false information to the public about her.

Ms. Townsend denied claims made in a letter to the editor in the *Island Sun* newspaper on Tuesday about her salary and other claims.

She said the figures quoted as her salary "were excessive."

Ms. Townsend said she is prepared to reveal the salaries of these people so that the public could see how much they are getting from the COI.

"Unfortunately, they are unable to avail of this significant benefit because they simply have no access.

The nearest Coast Guard Exchange is located in Honolulu, Hawaii which is over 4,600 miles away. Therefore, I humbly request that Department of Homeland Security personnel residing in the Northern Mariana Islands be granted access to the AAFES (Army and Air Force Exchange Store) troop

store situated at the Army Reserve Unit grounds in Saipan," Sablan said in an October letter to Casella.



Sablan

Sablan thanked federal employees who brought this matter to his attention.

"While I am aware that the Department of Defense Armed Services Exchange patronage is highly specific and the commissary program is a vital element of the military benefits package meant for active duty personnel, retired members, and their dependents, I urge you to extend this benefit to (DHS) employees in the Northern Mariana Islands who would have access to the Coast Guard Exchange had they been stationed in the U.S. mainland," Kilili told Casella.

The delegate's office has yet to receive a response from Casella.

BASA

From Page 1

and taxes without thorough assessment from experts and without public hearings.

He said the current dismal state of the economy is the worst time to make it costlier to do business in the CNMI.

Basa, in his presentation, gave an overview of five pending revenue-generating and reappropriation bills from the House, two of which were substituted by the Senate.

One of those is House Bill 17-53, which Basa introduced to reappropriate \$818,965.83 from the Kagman wastewater treatment plant to the Agingan wastewater treatment plant.

When the House bill reached the Senate, it became a revenue-generating bill that specifically requires increases in almost all business license fees and imposition of new fees.

"I was disappointed that my bill, when it went to the Senate, became a revenue-generating bill. They changed it 110 percent," he said, adding that when the government increases the cost of doing business, the demand for products and services become less and the lesser revenue the government collects in business taxes and fees.

He said a simple reappropriations bill became a measure to increase even the funeral service fee and poker machines, as well as increases taxes for cigarettes and alcohol.

Basa also noted the Senate's analysis on the House Bill 17-40, introduced by Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), during the time when the Fiscal Year 2011 budget was being discussed.

"They came out with an analysis that if we pass their substitute (of the House

bill), the tax increases will generate \$22 million in one year and no layoffs. I just like to let you know, as chair of the House Ways and Means, you got a friend working up there. I am going to assure you this bill will not be entertained until all data from affected (entities are gathered)," he said.

The committee will conduct public hearings on this and other revenue-generating bills, he said.

"At this point, I am not supporting this bill," he said, adding that the House leadership is keen on hiring an economist.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Douglas Brennan, during the membership meeting, said the government should start with enforcing tax laws before increasing taxes and fees.

Basa agreed, reiterating that the CNMI already has many tax laws in place but lack proper enforcement because of lack of enforcement personnel, among other things.

At this point, Basa had strong words for senators.

"All they do out there is gripe. They don't have the balls to alter the law," he said.

In a brief interview later on, Basa said "the Senate lately has become impatient."

He said all revenue-generating bills should originate from the House, as required by the Constitution.

"If you want to do taxes, quit the Senate and run for a House seat," he said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Basa said he would also support reducing the size of government if this is what it takes to help cut costs.

"I am not afraid to make tough choices," said the freshman lawmaker, an economics major.

FITIAL

From Page 1

The Fitial administration still has in its custody some \$100,000 in leftover funds from a \$360,000 U.S. Office of Insular Affairs grant.

Of the total amount, \$254,459.12 was used to audit DPS and DCCA, through independent contractor Management Analysis Inc. based in Virginia.

But Fitial said there is no final decision yet on a possible Finance and DPH desk audit.

Finance was initially included in the first round of desk audits, along with DPS. But Finance was later replaced with DCCA.

"I'm more concerned about revenue-generating agencies like Finance. Those are the agencies that take care of our income and expenses so I really need to have competent, qualified (people) there," he told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview last week.

He said in the future, he would also like to have a desk audit on the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College.

Fitial also said his administration is still reviewing the MAI desk audit recommendations for DPS and DCCA, both of which have been found to be overstaffed, and have a lot of posi-

tions with unnecessary and duplicative functions.

The governor said the complaints of harassment and conflict-of-interest, among other things, filed by DPS personnel against DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro will still continue even after the desk audit recommendations are implemented.

"That will still continue because there are people in the department who are anti-Fitial. And you can say (write) that. I respect them for being anti-Fitial and at the same time getting benefit from the Fitial administration. You tell them that," he said.

Memo to DPS

Fitial, in a memorandum, said his administration is "reviewing and assessing" the MAI desk audit report in order to implement the recommendations on improving efficiency and reduce redundancies; improve current core levels of services while reducing non-emergency and non-essential services; meeting all local, federal laws and regulations; and produce cost savings.

"During this time while the MAI report is being assessed, I ask that DPS continue to follow the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations along with the Civil Service," he said.

The governor said although positions will be reviewed and personnel

assessed at this time, DPS should continue to comply with the PSSRR and Civil Service Act concerning salary/merit increases and promotions and competitive selection process.

Since 1999, all provisions requiring increases in employees' salaries due to promotion, assignment, reclassification and step increases have been suspended.

Fitial also told DPS to strictly adhere to seven merit principles, including equal opportunity for all regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or place of origin, and impartial selection of the ablest person for government service by means of competitive tests which are fair, objective, and practical.

"The administration is taking the recommendations of the MAI report very seriously and therefore I thank you in advance for your continued adherence to the PSSRR and Civil Service Act, while you await communication from my office concerning the MAI report," the governor said in his memo to DPS.

MAI released its report on the desk audit of DPS and DCCA to the Fitial administration on Oct. 5, 2010.

MAI has a long list of recommendations to improve the efficiency, delivery of services, meet all local and federal laws and regulations, and produce cost savings at DPS and DCCA.

told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The online petition can be viewed at unheardnomore.blogspot.com.

Syed said they will be presenting Babauta with a copy of their letter and petition to President Barack Obama, while the petition with the signatures will be sent to the White House a month from now.

The foreign workers are asking Obama to take an administrative action "to extend protections to the 16,000 legal aliens residing in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands," particularly a parole-in-place status with authorization to seek employment and to allow them to qualify for employment-based visa applications "until such time as a more permanent status is provided" to them by the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. State Department, or the U.S. Labor Department.

DHS has yet to issue a transitional worker visa and investor visa programs for the CNMI, almost a year after it took over CNMI border control.

"Without a transitional worker visa

program mandated by the CNRA, none of the CNMI's legal alien workers can begin the process for obtaining an employment-based visa," the workers said in their letter to Obama.

CNMI businesses, as well as some government agencies, rely on foreign workers.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said he will also be meeting with Babauta today.

The governor said the two of them need not talk about the Interior report but he said he will seek more technical assistance grant from the Interior.

The Fitial administration is strongly opposed to the Interior report and recommendation, saying the Interior did not properly consult with the CNMI government on the report.

Newly reelected Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, in a news briefing on Friday, said the U.S. Congress need not act on the Interior recommendation but he said something needs to be done on the status of certain classes of people in the CNMI, including CNMI permanent residents and immediate relatives of U.S. and Freely Associated States citizens.

BABAUTA

From Page 1

Babauta's visit this time around is mainly to host a forum on economic and labor development set for tomorrow at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan from 8am to 4 pm.

The forum discusses a technical assistance program sanctioned by the Consolidated Natural Resources Act or the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

Rabby Syed, president of the United Workers Movement-NMI, said they scheduled tomorrow's prayer vigil at the American Memorial Park and formal launching of an online petition for protection of foreign workers in the CNMI, in time for Babauta's visit to Saipan this week.

"We have so far gathered almost 450 signatures as of Sunday afternoon, but our formal launching is Tuesday. That's also the time when we will have a prayer vigil also for the protection of foreign workers here. We invite everyone to join us in the prayer vigil," Syed

ALLA

From Page 4

is worth the obstacles when he sees his students gain knowledge. This year being the second time he is nominated, Adachi continues to shower his students with his contagious enthusiasm and energy.

Saipan Tribune learned that throughout the six years he served in PSS as a teacher aide, he has advised many school clubs, such as Project Familia, wellness, PeaceBuilders, and other sporting activities. He makes it a point to promote good health and healthy living amongst students. He has a reputation of obtaining effective classroom management strategies, especially with his kindergarteners, as well as reading and writing skills. He enjoys providing hand-on activities to accommodate and differentiate his

students' learning.

Named support staff of the year, meanwhile, was Marijane Villagomez who works to the best of her abilities, and puts in extra effort to complete and achieve a task.

As KES' current librarian, Villagomez has gone beyond the responsibility of a librarian. Throughout her three years of service, she has conducted assessments, substituted in classes, helped coordinate extracurricular activities, and continued her education with useful professional development workshops.

Villagomez always has a smile on and most students consider her as an approachable and friendly librarian. It is her goal to provide a friendly learning environment, and supplement students' learning with strategies and accommodations that she has learned from past ELL reading professional development workshops.

MPLT sues 2 to collect 11-year-old \$70,000 loan

The Marianas Public Land Trust has sued two Tinian residents who allegedly failed to pay \$70,512.74 in principal balance of loan, interest, and other fees.

MPLT sued Ines F. Sanbergen and Daisy F. Manglona for breach of contract, conversion, and unjust enrichment.

MPLT, through counsel Robert T. Torres, asked the Superior

Court to order the defendants to pay the total amount.

The plaintiff requested the court to order that the real property consisting of 869 square meters of land given as security for the loan agreement be sold and that the proceeds of the sale be applied to the balance due on the judgment.

MPLT also demanded pay-

ment for attorney's fees and court costs.

Saipan Tribune yesterday contacted Sanbergen and Manglona, but Sanbergen said they have no comment and are not aware of the lawsuit.

Torres stated in the complaint that on March 19, 1999, Sanbergen and Manglona obtained from MPLT a loan of \$70,000.

Torres said the defendants have not made the monthly installments as they became due and therefore in default on the loan agreement.

"As of Sept. 29, 2010, defendants owe the balance on the principal of \$69,769.96, accrued interest of \$492.27, at an interest rate of 2 percent, with a daily factor of \$3.88, and unpaid charges of \$250.51," the lawyer said.

Torres said notwithstanding the notice of default, defendants "have refused and failed and continuously refuse and fail to make payments and has failed to cure the default on or before Sept. 1, 2010." (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Man caught by surveillance camera stealing items at store gets one-day prison term

Superior Court Associate Judge Perry B. Inos has imposed a one-day jail term on one of the three persons who was caught by a surveillance camera burglarizing a store in San Antonio and stealing some items.

Inos sentenced Raymond Naputi Muna to one year in prison, all suspended except for one day.

Inos gave the 41-year-old Muna credit for the one day he already served in jail.

Muna was placed on one year of supervised probation and required to pay \$540 in restitution to the victim, Seung H. Hwang, owner of En Cool Phone Shop.

The defendant was ordered to pay a \$500 fine, plus probation fee, and required to perform 50 hours of community work service.

The judge ordered Muna to stay away from Hwang and his business establishment in San Antonio.

Inos set a review hearing for Jan. 12, 2011 to determine

whether the defendant has complied with all the terms and conditions of the sentence.

Muna and counsel signed a plea agreement with assistant attorney general Eli Golob. The defendant pleaded guilty to theft.

The agreement stated that on Nov. 9, 2009, Muna stole bottles of perfume and a black Sting Ray purse from Hwang, owner of En Cool Phone Shop.

Muna's co-defendant, Julian M. Sablan, had also pleaded guilty to the same offense over the En Cool Phone Shop theft incident. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Public Health Liaison Office relocation

In order to better streamline the Bureau of Environmental Health's services, the Department of Public Health will be relocating the Public Health Liaison Office that is presently located on the 2nd floor of the Afetnas Center to the BEH's main office building N-8 in Navy Hill, effective Nov. 10,

2010, Wednesday. Again, please be advised that all alien health and food handler certificates will be issued at the new PHLO location starting Nov. 10.

For more information, contact 664-4870/ 72, fax number 664-4871 or send BEH an email at divbeh1@pticom.com. (*PR*)



A call to defend and a call to challenge!!!

The 2nd Annual TanHoldings Tennis Classic (THTC) kicks off soon!.
The first week of tournament action will be played on November 24, 26, 27, and 28, and will feature junior long court singles and doubles as well as adult mixed doubles events. The second weekend of action will be played on December 2-5, and will feature junior short court and adult singles and doubles events. Download your entry form online, and turn it in today to reserve your spot in the THTC!

Congratulations to all our 2009 winners!

We look forward to watching you defend your championships, and we are excited to see our friends from off-island--Guam and elsewhere--join us again this year.

For more information on the THTC go to: www.tanholdings.com/tennis

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Girls 14 Singles	Mikayla Lopez
Girls 12 Singles	Camdyn Nadler
Girls 10 Singles	Isabel Heras
Mixed 10 Doubles	Gessyu+Eunsya Hahn
Boys and Girls under 10	ALL MEDALS AWARDED TO THIS DIVISION
Mens Open Singles	Kirk Schuler
Womens Open Singles	Thea Minor
Mens 40+ Singles	Dong Min Lee
Womens 40+ Singles	Lydia Tan
Mens 3.0 Singles	Daniel Wollack
Mens 4.0 Singles	Raj Rai
Womens 2.0 Singles	Carrie Schuler
Womens 3.0 Singles	Mikayla Lopez
Womens 4.0 Singles	Eunkyoung Lee
Boys 14 Doubles	Jake Lee / Daniel Park
Boys 12 Doubles	Josh Cepeda / Brian Tuncap
Girls 18 Doubles	Jodel Fernandez / Lila Mailman
Girls 14 Doubles	Alina Ishikawa / Mikayla Lopez
Girls 12 Doubles	Alyssa Bristol / Camdyn Nadler
Mens Open Doubles	Torgun Smith / Wendell Roden
Womens Open Doubles	Cleofe Santos / Thea Minor
Mens 40+ Doubles	Dong Min Lee / Lope Padilla
Womens 40+ Doubles	Sally Lee / Lydia Tan
Mens 2.0 Doubles	Stanley Tsang / Kenneth Yu
Mens 3.0 Doubles	Paul Jang / Chong Chel Lee
Mens 4.0 Doubles	Jaime Lai / Masahi Shinkawa
Womens 2.0 Doubles	Bonnie Decena / Gem Eugenio
Womens 3.0 Doubles	Seunghee Han / Sujung Lee
Womens 4.0 Doubles	Thecel Minor / Joy Minor
Sportsmanship Awards	
Aaron Lee	Eddie Perez
Sally Hwang	

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HARDT EYE CLINIC

November is American Diabetes Month

**Please take a moment to take this simple quiz
in recognition of American Diabetes Month.**

QUESTION #1 True or False

1. Having diabetes isn't really a serious problem.

*False: "Diabetes causes more deaths every year than breast cancer and AIDS combined. Two out of three people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke."

*Source: American Diabetes Association

Why is there only one question on this quiz—do you really need any more?

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whether simple or complicated.**

235-2030

IN SGT. DELEON GUERRERO'S PROTEST AGAINST DPS

Atty. Torres says DPS used loopholes to circumvent austerity measures

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety used the "provisional appointment" and "probationary employment" loopholes to circumvent austerity measures and bypass promotional procedures over the past few years, according to attorney Robert T. Torres.

Torres, counsel for Sgt. James C. Deleon Guerrero, said DPS admitted to turning to outside or lateral hires to fill the department's needs because it purportedly is barred from promoting.

"Not until Sgt. Deleon Guerrero took the time and incurred the expense of filing his grievance, did DPS bother to take any corrective action," said Torres in Deleon Guerrero's opposition to DPS motion for summary judgment.

Deleon Guerrero sued DPS to protest over the alleged discrimination in the promotion and hiring practices. Twenty-six other police officers joined Deleon Guerrero in the lawsuit.

In plaintiff's opposition to the motion, Torres said new grievances filed against DPS "indicate that the haphazard, discriminatory, and unlawful promotional practices at issue are continuing."

He said instead of adhering to mandatory policies requiring the impartial selection of the ablest person for government services, and in lieu of honoring those practices that insure a just opportunity for competent employees to be promoted within, DPS is instead continuing to circumvent austerity restrictions," he said.

He said DPS has been doing

preferential hiring, haphazard promotions, and selective dissemination of information that would keep the long-serving rank-and-file officers in the dark about employment opportunities, so as to prevent them from applying.

Torres said DPS' demotion of Police Officers Alfred Celes did not bring DPS into compliance with the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations (PSSRR) regarding competitive selection process.

"To this day, DPS' endorsement of personnel practices that disregard and undermine competitive selection processes continues," Torres said.

On Jan. 1, 1999, the Civil Service Commission issued a "notice of financial austerity measures" freezing pay increases due to permanent or tem-

porary promotions, acting or detail assignments, reallocation or reclassification of positions, and step increases based on attendance at workshops or other training programs.

Torres said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial sent a memorandum to DPS concerning a desk audit report and continued compliance with PSSRRs and the Civil Service Act.

Although cast as a "directive," Torres noted, the memorandum only "asks" DPS to continue to follow the PSSRR, along with the Civil Service Act.

According to DPS, through the Office of the Attorney General, the "preference" for merit based promotion was suspended by the implementation of financial austerity measures in 1999.

Torres said DPS admits that exceptions have been made to the 1999 financial austerity ban on promotions.

According to the DPS, however, since promoting from within DPS would require pay increases in violation of the financial austerity measure, DPS has no choice but to fill vacant positions by lateral hire.

Torres said DPS' human resource officer Rose Dela Cruz testified that in 2007, then DPS commissioner Rebecca Warfield instructed her to process a request for personnel action for a provisional appointment to

police sergeant that was filled by Paul Ogumoro.

"There was no vacancy that had been posted for this position," Torres said.

The lawyer said although Michael Blakely was rated higher than Ogumoro on the eligibility list, Ogumoro was hired anyway, without any written justification explaining why DPS hired the less qualified applicant.

Dela Cruz also testified that commissioner Santiago Tudela instructed her just to process a request for personnel action to rehire former lieutenant Vicente Tagabuel as a sergeant.

"When Mrs. Dela Cruz pointed out Tagabuel's checkered personnel record and his resignation in lieu of termination, commissioner Tudela told her that he was just following orders from the governor," Torres said.

Torres said there was no notice announcing the vacancy filled by Tagabuel or eligibility list certifying those who could fill it.

Torres said employees may be hired on a provisional basis, but in all such instances, DPS submits a justification for departing from customary procedures or explains why the personnel action qualifies as an emergency.

He said to insure that provisional appointments are quali-

fied for the position, moreover, the Office of Personnel Management prequalifies or preclassifies them.

Warfield testified that she never announced the position because she wanted to get "people on board who could hit the ground running."

As DPS freely admits, Torres said, the financial austerity measure is riddled with exceptions.

He said the regulation has been repeatedly suspended to allow for the hiring of DOC employees, public health employees, Customs employees and whatever various and sundry appointments the governor deems necessary.

"In fact, the austerity regulation has been so riddled with exceptions that the exceptions may have supplanted the rule," Torres said.

Thus, appellee's insistence that the desk audit and the governor's "directive" have solved all problems and given appellants the relief they requested is misplaced.

"Given the seriousness of DPS' mission to protect the safety and welfare of the CNMI populace and ensure the enforcement of the law, it is difficult to conceive of a situation where either the Legislature or the governor would restrict DPS only to new hires to fill vacancies and not allow DPS the ability to select and promote existing employees on merit, so as to provide for the manpower essential to fulfill its mission," he said.



INVITATION FOR BIDS WATER TASK FORCE IFB11-GOV-007



Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Well Fields Isolation and Water System Improvements in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business License in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Conduct Construction Survey and Staking.
- Construct Permanent and Temporary Erosion Control measures.
- Perform Earthwork and Site Utilities.
- Install Air Relief Valve, Flush Hydrant, Fire Hydrant, fittings, Water System Booster Pump Stations and connections to water mains at various locations.
- Install 6,100 linear feet of 8" diameter PVC C900 distribution line, 70 linear feet of 6" diameter PVC C900 distribution line, 4,410 linear feet of 4" diameter PVC C900 distribution line, and 1,070 linear feet of 2" diameter PVC C900 distribution line including Gate Valves and their connection to the Main Waterline.
- Modification of Existing Water Supply Pipes and other incidentals to complete the work per plans and specifications.
- Chlorination/Washing and Testing of New Waterlines.
- Reconstruction of Asphalt Pavement.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after October 18, 2010 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on November 2, 2010, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the Pre-Bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to **Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager**, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on November 1, 2010.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked **"IFB10-GOV-007"** For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 pm local time November 17, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 3:00 pm local time November 17, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 17, 2010, and must be received no later than November 29, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, November 30, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on November 18, 2010.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial Herman S. Sablan
Governor and Contracting Officer Director, Procurement and Supply



WATER TASK FORCE



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 11-GOV-005

Project Manager For Water Task Force Projects

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified individuals or firms for Professional Services for Project Manager for the Water Task Force on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project Scope of Work will be available on or after **October 25, 2010** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 PM, November 1, 2010** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number: (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-305. Preference per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118 is not available in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Project Manager", RFP 11- GOV-005**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 pm, November 24, 2010 (CNMI local time)**.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Cases up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget Rings up to \$800 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Rings up to \$500 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Watch Bands up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Earrings up to \$200 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Pocket Watches up to \$750 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Brooches up to \$1,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Wedding Bands up to \$350 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dental Gold up to \$900 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Link Bracelets up to \$2,500 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Coins up to \$15,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bangles up to \$850 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Scrap up to \$1,250 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Broken Chains up to \$1,000 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gold Bars up to \$15,000 |
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Investor, law offices sue businessman, company

» Plaintiffs sued over alleged unpaid \$102,000 rent, fence without emergency exit

The law offices of Ramon K. Quichocho and an investor have sued a businessman and a company for allegedly refusing to pay \$102,991 in past due rent and erecting a fence in the back of a property without providing any emergency exit.

Quichocho law offices and Eun Teack Jung sued Ju Young Kim and Taewoo Corp. for unlawful detainer, partition, unjust enrichment, breach of contract, accounting, trespass/encroachment, negligence, and nuisance.

Quichocho and Jung, through counsel Robert H. Myers Jr., asked the Superior Court to order the defendants be removed from the premises and pay past due rent in the amount of \$102,991.11 as of Oct. 22, 2009.

The plaintiffs asked the court to furnish an accounting of all the moneys that they have received or generated from Jung's property.

Jung demanded a partition of the premises in equal one-third shares. Hung and Quichocho law offices asked the court to issue an order enjoining the defendants from blocking emergency exits and from committing further nuisance.

The plaintiffs demanded damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Myers stated in the complaint that Quichocho's law offices is the current tenant of Mr. Jung, a Korean national.

Myers said Jung is now the leasehold owner of a one-third undivided interest of a parcel of land containing 3,238 square meters situated in Gualo Rai.

Myers said that on Sept. 29, 1987, a land lease was executed by and between Jose L. Chong and Chong Investment Corp. and Jung, Yung Hoi Koo, and Kim, for the rental of the premises.

The lease is for a period of 55 years, from 1987 to 2042. The rental amount is \$1,800 per month for the first five years, subject to a raise of 15 percent every five years.

In 1987, Jung, Mr. Koo, and Mr. Kim built a two-story commercial building on the premises.

Jung, Koo, and Kim agreed that each would own and occupy one third of the real estate and one third of the commercial building.

From the beginning of the original lease to the present,

Koo occupies the entire Koo property, as agreed.

Myers said Kim and his sister, however, had a pre-existing business of selling glass and frames for windows and doors, which is Taewoo Corp., which was relocated to the leased premises.

Taewoo needed additional space to store its frames and other business inventory and for its working space.

Kim asked Jung if Kim can use the rear portion of the Jung property, for Kim's business.

In September 1987, Jung and Kim entered into an oral agreement for Kim's business to use a portion of the Jung property for an initial monthly fee of \$300.

Myers said that, in June 2009, Kim, subsequently, erected a fence at the back side of the Jung property without providing any emergency exit, which poses a health and safety hazard, in violation of the Building Code of the CNMI.

Military training at W-517 tomorrow

The Emergency Management Office, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the public that the U.S. Navy would be conducting military training at W-517 tomorrow, Nov. 9, from 8am to 5pm.

W-517 is an irregular polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical miles of airspace and begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters and at Farallon De Mendenilla Training Area (R7201). W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa and Galvez Bank.

Due to the danger imposed

Kim has also erected other permanent structures encroaching on the Jung property.

Jung, including his tenant Quichocho law office, had repeatedly demanded that Kim provide an emergency exit, but to no avail.

Myers said that, every year since 1987, Jung tried to collect the monthly payments, but each year Kim refuses to pay.

Defendants, the lawyer said, have failed to pay any rental since 1987.

"As of Oct. 22, 2009, there is due and owing by defendants to plaintiff the principal sum of \$102,999.11, plus reasonable interest," Myers said.

"Defendants' operation at the Kim property so that unreasonable and excessive noise occur almost everyday due to cutting aluminum frames, and other things, including the temporary storage of razor sharp debris, is a nuisance," he added. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

by this activity, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is advising the CNMI residents—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to take precautionary measures around this area during the time and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Emergency Management Office, Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0. or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. *(PR)*

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 8, 1999

Rota rejects casino plan

The people of Rota thumbed down Saturday a local initiative that would have paved the way for the establishment of a casino industry in the island-municipality. Unofficial results showed that only 486 voted in favor of the proposed local law, way below the required two-thirds of the 902 votes cast. Likewise, the proposed amendment to the Tinian Casino Gaming Act of 1989 was rejected by the local people in Tinian as only 564 voted "yes" to the initiative. Tinian needed 730 votes of the 1,095 votes cast to be approved. The result of the local election in Rota proves that the people are either not ready for the establishment of casino gambling or the Task Force on Casino failed to reach enough voters to educate the public on the pros and cons of the issue, said Sen. President Paul Manglona.

Saipan, Guam top honeymoon destinations

Saipan and Guam saw the biggest growth in overseas weddings, posting a 3.5 percent increase in popularity as a honeymoon destination by Japanese in 1999 compared to the previous year, according to a survey conducted by Japan Travel Bureau. The JTB survey said shorter tour packages and cheaper rates were the biggest factors why Japanese honeymooners prefer Saipan and Guam. While most tours to Saipan and Guam are set at four days, Look JTB has introduced shorter wedding packages, which allow guests to take only three days off work. The survey noted that tour packages in Saipan and Guam are more affordable than other destinations, with reduced costs not only for the couple but also for their guests.

Nov. 8, 2000

Co-sharing in wiping out gov't health insurance debts pushed

Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund Board Chair Vicente Camacho yesterday recommended that the \$6 million funding which the government health insurance needs to pay off its debt and hire a health provider be divided among the three island-municipalities of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Mr. Camacho said Saipan should shoulder the biggest share of \$4 million while Tinian and Rota at \$1 million each. NMIRF officials have been looking for ways to raise the much needed funding in an effort to retire its \$5 million debt from different health providers.

Tougher anti-littering law sought

The House of Representatives may pass legislation to give teeth to anti-littering regulations amid reports that several residents are using some parts on the islands as dumping ground for their garbage. Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider expressed dismay during a House session yesterday over the illegal dumping, describing the situation as "despicable" as the tons of trash have ruined the otherwise pristine beaches and open spaces on Saipan. "Have we gone this bad," he asked his colleagues, noting efforts by some to clean up beaches, such as Obyan and Ladder Beach, are going to naught if residents continue to dump their trash elsewhere.


Nov. 8, 2001

Value added tax proposed amid crisis

The Division of Solid Waste Management is proposing the implementation of a value added tax, which will be assessed on all consumer products, to defray funding deficits for the eventual closure of the Puerto Rico Dumpsite. According to Solid Waste Program Manager Alberta Carpenter, funding constraint has impaired the immediate closure of the dumpsite. She said the implemented tipping fees will partially subsidize the cost of solid waste operations at the new landfill. However, these funds won't be enough to cover the cost as Capital Improvement Project funds are expected to run out soon.

Postal workers wear masks, gloves

As federal investigators scour mailrooms and postal facilities in different states across the nation, postal employees in the CNMI have been wearing masks and gloves to protect themselves from anthrax. Thus said Postmaster John San Nicolas, who heads the US Postal Service stationed in the Commonwealth. "We're providing the masks and gloves," San Nicolas said. But so far, there has been no reported case of anthrax infection in the CNMI. There was only one instance that triggered an anthrax scare on Saipan, when a lady attendant spotted a white, powdery substance leaking from a package at the Post Office branch in Capitol Hill. The substance turned out to be one that is mixed with adhesive used in golf clubs.


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DPS-016
 Submission/Opening Date: November 24, 2010 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"PURCHASE OF THREE (3) ALUMINUM ROLL UP DOORS TO INCLUDE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project, as such local preference is not available because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
 Acting Commissioner, Dept. of Public Safety

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 Director, P&S


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DPS-017 (A)(B)(C)
 Submission/Opening Date: November 24, 2010 • Time: 10:30 a.m.



"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 150HP 2-STROKE OUTBOARD MOTOR CLOCKWISE ROTATION, PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 150HP 2-STROKE OUTBOARD MOTOR COUNTER CLOCKWISE ROTATION, PURCHASE OF ONE (1) TWIN 200HP INBOARD MOTOR ENGINES TO INCLUDE REMOVAL AND INSTALLATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-BOATING SAFETY SECTION"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project, as such local preference is not available because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

/s/ AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO
 Acting Commissioner, Dept. of Public Safety

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 Director, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-OHS-001**

SUBMISSION: NOVEMBER 30, 2010 • TIME: 3:00 P.M.
"PURCHASE, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF AN EMERGENCY BACKUP GENERATOR SYSTEM FOR THE CNMI'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY SITE VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 17, 2010 AT 9:30 A.M. FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE PROJECT SITE LOCATION. YOU MAY CONTACT THE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AT (670) 664-2216. FAILURE TO ATTEND THE MANDATORY SITE VISIT SHALL RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS.

THIS IS FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ PATRICK J. TENORIO
 SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 DIRECTOR, P&S


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DPL-011
 Submission/Opening Date: November 26, 2010 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS - TINIAN BRANCH"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

The lessor must comply with CNMI Public Law 15-23, Article 5, Section 8652 (A)-(D)

/s/ OSCAR M. BABAUTA
 Secretary, Dept. of Public Lands

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 Director, P&S


**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**


INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-DOF/REV-020
 Submission/Opening Date: November 24, 2010 • Time: 1:00 p.m.

PRINTING OF THE 2010 FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR W-2CM AND OS-3710 FOR THE DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION OFFICE"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ ROBERT A. SCHRACK
 Secretary of Finance

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
 Director, P&S

Report: fragile South Pacific key NZ defense focus



AUTUMN FESTIVAL

Staff from Hafadai Beach Hotel pose at their booth during the Japanese Autumn Festival last Oct. 23 at the Sugar King Park.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 62nd birthday to Grandma Maria Basa Liza-ma who is celebrating her birthday today. May you have many more to come... May God bless you... We love you Mom and Grandma. Greetings from your loving children and grandchildren.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A very happy birthday go out to Rakina Chong who is celebrating her 13th birthday today! May you be blessed with many more birthdays to come! Much love coming from all your familia and friends.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—East Timor and some South Pacific island states will likely remain unstable for the foreseeable future and will be a key focus of the defense forces of Australia and New Zealand, a New Zealand defense policy review said Tuesday.

While New Zealand and its territories were “highly unlikely” to face direct military threat, the “resilience of Pacific island states and the effectiveness of regional institutions will remain under pressure,” warns the report, written by a Defense Force team and released Tuesday.

This means that close military allies and regional powers Australia and New Zealand must continue to contribute to stability, economic development, regional maritime surveillance, disaster relief and humanitarian aid in the area for at least 25 years, the report tells policy makers.

The troubled nation of East

Timor, despite its significant oil and gas revenues “is likely to continue to require substantial foreign assistance ... to sustain itself as a viable state,” it says.

East Timor, which broke from 24 years of Indonesian occupation in 1999 and was then briefly administered by the United Nations, has faced political turmoil and violence since declaring independence in 2002. Australia and New Zealand sent peacekeeping troops to the embattled country as part of a U.N. force to help restore law and order. Some 85 New Zealand troops remain in East Timor, where political instability continues.

New Zealand and Australia also have peacekeeping troops in the Solomon Islands, restoring law and order to the archipelago after six years of internal strife. Both countries have troops in Afghanistan, and contribute to U.N. peacekeeping efforts other parts of the world.

New Zealand’s 14,000-strong defense force also provides support for marine resource protection, humanitarian relief and search and rescue in the South Pacific.

The report, the first review of the nation’s defense forces in 13 years, proposes consolidating defense force bases nationwide, upgrading naval combat capabilities and replacing by 2020 its air force C-130 cargo and Orion maritime surveillance airplanes. It also proposes the purchase of more helicopters and new short-range maritime airplanes.

Prime Minister John Key said the report made it clear New Zealand must enhance its defense capabilities to be ready to meet challenges including a growing pressure on maritime resources, increasing illegal migration, continuing instability in some South Pacific island states and a “shifting” strategic balance in East Asia. He did not elaborate.



INVITATION FOR BIDS

WATER TASK FORCE IFB11-GOV-010



Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the Installation of Puerto Rico Transmission and Distribution Line, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The bidder is required to submit with his proposal a copy of his CNMI Business License in compliance with the Contractor’s Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Conduct Construction Survey and Staking.
- Construct Permanent and Temporary Erosion Control measures.
- Perform Earthwork and Site Utilities.
- Install Air Relief Valve, Pressure Sustaining Valve, Flush Hydrant, Fire Hydrant, fittings, and connections to water mains at various locations.
- Install 1,500 linear feet of 6" diameter PVC C900 Distribution line and 1900 linear feet of 12" diameter PVC C900 Transmission line including Gate Valves and their connection to the Main Waterline.
- Modification of Existing Water Supply Pipes and other incidentals to complete the work per plans and specifications.
- Chlorination/Washing and Testing of New Waterlines.
- Demolition and Reconstruction of Asphalt Pavement.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after November 1, 2010 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on November 12, 2010, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the Pre-Bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to **Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager**, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on November 11, 2010.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked **“IFB11-GOV-010”**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 pm local time December 1, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 3:00 pm local time December 1, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than December 1, 2010, and must be received no later than December 13, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, December 14, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on December 2, 2010.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor and Contracting Officer

Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



INVITATION FOR BID CUC-IFB-11-006

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF POLE MOUNTED TRANSFORMERS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Pole Mounted Transformers for the CUC Power Division in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bid package may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM (CHST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-11-006, Supply & Delivery of Pole Mounted Transformers”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **December 3, 2010 at 10:00 AM (CHST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. Bid award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is responsive to all specification and requirements concerning delivery time, payment terms, warranty and duration of warranty.

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM (CHST) local time on **November 26, 2010** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. John Onedera, Power Division Engineer- johno@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE U. MALAE
Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

Haiti's children smuggled, exploited

The heartbreaking stories of abandoned and exploited young Haitians in the Dominican Republic shock the conscience. The traffic in children and adolescents is conducted openly and shamelessly along the Haitian-Dominican border, condemning thousands of young lives to years of pain, destitution and unrelieved misery. It must be stopped.

The complicity of governments willing to turn a blind eye to the abuse of the most vulnerable members of society compounds the outrage. Theirs is not only a failure to act, but a failure to give a damn.

As reported in detail by Jacqueline Charles of *The Miami Herald* and Gerardo Reyes of *El Nuevo Herald*, the action takes place right under the noses of police and guards along the border and in the tourist towns where young Haitian prostitutes ply their trade to make a living.

These guardians of law and order are too busy taking bribes or looking the other way while smugglers transport children across the border unhindered and turn them over to be exploited for sex or servitude.

Meanwhile, governments and institutions with the power to take effective action are unwilling to take responsibility.

Haitian Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive acknowledged there's a lack of political will to do anything about it. Dominican President Leonel Fernandez did not respond directly, but his office said in an e-mail that the government has intensified border security, prosecutions and sanctions against smugglers.

Sure. There are laws on the books, but they're a joke. A U.S. State Department report this year concluded that the Dominican Republic "does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking and is not making significant efforts to do so."

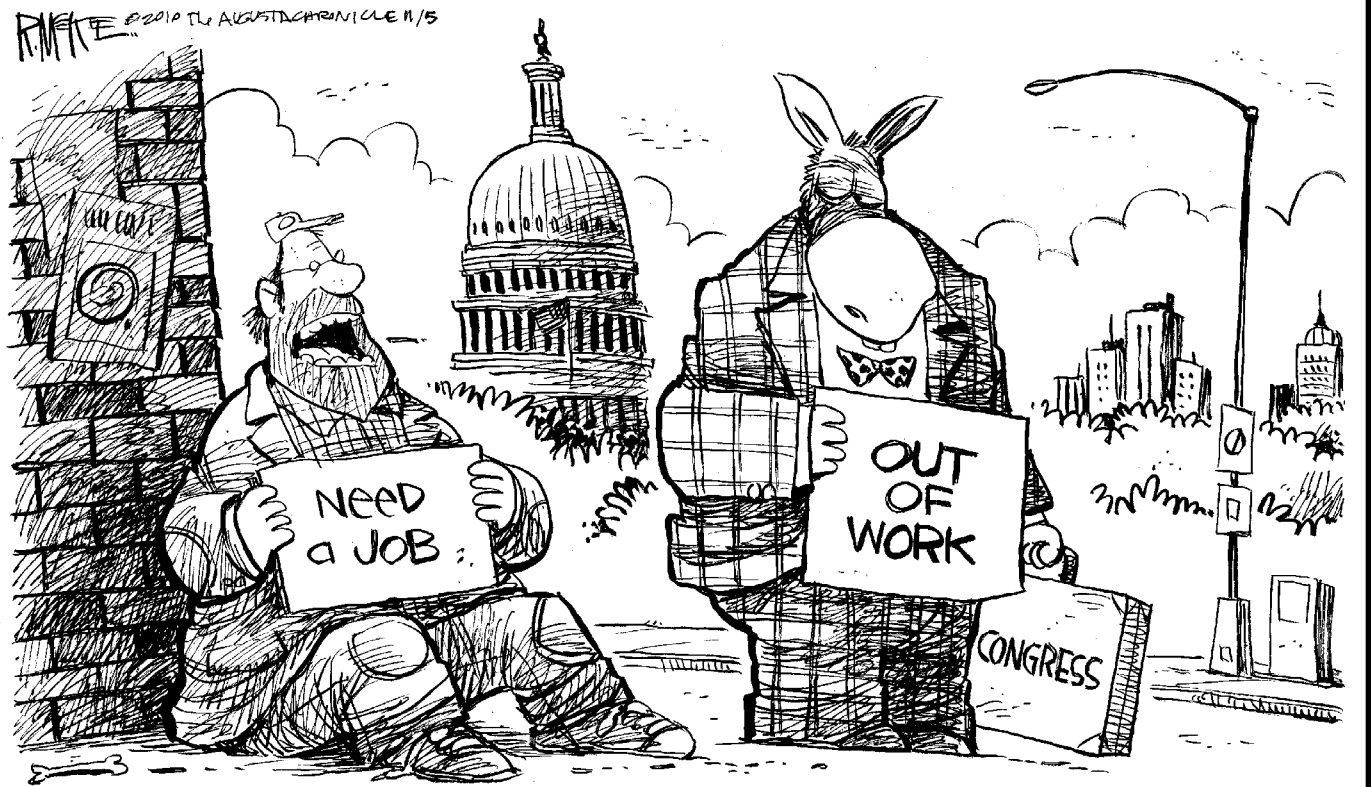
This scandal has been a long time coming. As far back as 2002, UNICEF issued a report on the existence of a border-crossing network involving "Haitian traffickers, or 'passeurs,' Dominican chauffeurs, and Dominican Army soldiers." The report was never made public in the Dominican Republic, where a conspiracy of silence ensures that the trade in smuggled children continues to flourish.

And flourish it has, especially after January's horrible earthquake in Haiti. A non-governmental organization called Jano Sikse Border Network (RFJS in Creole), which keeps a monthly headcount, tallied about 7,320 children "illegally trafficked" through September. In 2009, the RFJS tallied 900 kids for the year.

The under-resourced private organizations trying to help exploited children deserve recognition for their work, but they can't cope with the flood of smuggled children when no one else cares. Only governments, acting in concert with the United Nations, can take effective measures by prosecuting criminal activity and finding protection for the victims.

The Dominican Republic is not a wealthy nation, though far better off than Haiti. It can't undertake the responsibility for sheltering every Haitian child who crosses the border, voluntarily or not. But surely it can do much more to stop the horrible smuggling of children, and surely the international community can lend a hand to make sure these children get a chance to have a decent life.

(c) 2010, The Miami Herald.



"OH, SO NOW YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT..."

Corruption—being robbed by our own citizens Part I

If today's newspaper headlines were to scream out: We are being robbed by our fellow citizens! What would you think? Would you get angry and want to know who they are? Would you just turn away feeling that it is not your problem? Would you feel betrayed by the government for its lack of concern for letting this happen?

At this particular time when the Legislature is trying to raise taxes, it is especially important to note that various individuals and groups have been and still are robbing us blind. There are millions of dollars that should be collected and no one is trying to collect it. There is so much tax money that has gone unpaid and no one is trying to collect it. Yet the Legislature is fiercely trying to increase our taxes in various ways. Walk with me as we discuss this issue.

In 2000, Leo LaMotte, a former Public Auditor, is quoted as saying: "The level of corruption in the Northern Marianas is quite intolerable... and should be addressed immediately."

Mr. LaMotte lamented that the audit reports and investigations by his office, the OPA, investigated were proof of the existence of widespread corruption in the Commonwealth government.

Eight years later in 2008, Mike Sablan, also a former OPA chief, repeated the same sentiment. He noted that nothing is being done to punish the people who have committed these crimes against us. These local criminals have walked away free with millions of dollars. But the worst of all this corruption is that the government knows who they are and doesn't care to go after them!

If we were to ask the current OPA director Mike Pai if it is still the same, I am confident he would repeat the same comments. See his office's current reports. To read any of these reports and others punch in CNMI Office of the Public Auditor Archives on your computer. They are all there spelled out clearly. But bring a strong stomach.

The Attorney General's Office keeps saying that they will look into these. Years later they are still looking into them? Excuse me! What are you looking into? Are we citizens considered fools by the AG office?

Corruption is one of the most shocking crimes against people because it is a betrayal of trust. We citizens put our faith and trust in someone or a group who we feel will help improve the community. Instead that individual or group betrays us by taking advantage of our faith and trust. Short of murder, I cannot think of a more heinous criminal act. Sad to say, but that trust is being broken by our own citizens, not foreigners.

Over the years I have spoken to the FBI about corruption here and have asked why they haven't gotten more involved in stopping it. Their reply is, "Yes, we know who is doing what and how much is being creamed off the top or simply stolen, but we cannot find any witnesses who will stand up in court and testify against these offenders. They all refuse for various reasons." But you and I know the reasons: fear of intimidation. What a cop out!

What a sad commentary on us to know that a crime has been committed and no one is willing to come forth to aid justice and his

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



fellow citizens. By our cowardliness we are condoning these acts of corruption. In simple language, we are as guilty as the corruptors and as evil as they are for tolerating them. The courts call these acts "accessory to a crime." Are we such a sick society?

Why do we tolerate parasites in our community to feed off us without becoming outraged and crushing them? Do we deny that we don't know who these bloodsucking leeches are? Where are the good and fearless leaders we elected? Are they a part of the corruption also? Maybe it's time to kick them out and start over again.

Where is our integrity that is supposed to be part of the basic moral fiber of man? "Integrity" is an abstract word difficult to define but easy to recognize when practiced. A person with integrity knows what is right or wrong even if on one else wants to admit it. A person of integrity is one who adheres to a code of values, utter sincerity, honesty, and candor regardless of the price.

Integrity requires three steps:

1. Revealing insight and understanding of what is right and wrong;
2. Acting on what we know to be right even at personal cost; and
3. Saying openly that we are acting on our understanding of right and wrong.

Let's look at several cases and question why no one in the government is concerned about collecting the money that has been taken through corruption? Remember these are cases that the OPA has carefully investigated and turned over to the Attorney General's office for action years ago. Oh, by the way, the AG is still looking into them!

Since 2002, the Office of the Public Auditor asked the Attorney General's Office for legal action to recover about \$1,095,288.00. Who got it?

1. The Tinian Gambling Casino Commission gave out \$739,346.00, since 1999. This was for overpayment to a consultant. The case involves unjust enrichment, conversion, fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty. There is also an estimated \$195,971.00 due from three other individuals for breach of fiduciary trust. To this date there has been no action for recovery. Why not?

2. The Tinian Gambling Casino Commission also gave out another \$159,971.00 for excessive travel expenses for fiscal years 1996 to 2001. This has been pending since 2002 with no action. Why?

In another case the CNMI government overpaid for professional

See **CORRUPTION** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Remembrance(s)

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.

“Death leaves a heartache no one can heal—Love leaves a memory no one can steal.” – *Etched on a marker for the 13 victims of the Fort Hood massacre a year ago.*

The luxury and the curse of memory and anticipation are at once both human instruments of illusion and reality checks. A friend makes it his mantra to remind us who journeyed once in consensed cadence that there is no past or future, there is only the present. The past is a memory where one frolics or rages in remembrance, and the future anticipates the unknown in fear and hope. The present is the loci of qualitative events, moments when and where being is invested, fructifying life; 'tis all that matters.

Veterans Day is a day of remembrance(s), a painful one for many whose loved ones were cut down in the prime of their youth, and doubly tragic for those felled in battle by friendly fire, or worst, those whose breath were shortened by a homicidal combatant on one's side. Pictures of CNMI folks in current theatres of engagement who consigned their I.D. tags to the annals of military history are on display at Capital Hill.

Each of us nurses our own memory and chooses the contextual

history and geography to which we express our mixed feelings of fondness and grief over those lost in peace and war. The waning days of WWII consciousness was dramatically displayed at Don Farrell's organized Manhattan Project Symposium in Tinian last August where Don's Dad was in attendance, and the veterans of that war grown silent and sparse.

We lived in D.C. when the Korean War memorial at the Mall was inaugurated, ironically by Bill Clinton who, with now State Department Secretary Hillary, was a protester during the Vietnam conflict. Visiting Dandong, Liaoning across the Yalu River from North Korea last year, I found out that Mao Zedong lost his son Mao An Ying in that conflict. The high and the mighty are not spared grief.

Yanbian, Korea in China, was defined by the '50s north-south conflict in the Korean peninsula. Manchuria has an indelible foreign presence (Japan in Shenyang and Changchun, and Russia in Harbin), not to mention the fact that the Manchus themselves were foreign rulers to the mainstream Hans whose mobility in Manchuria was curtailed during the Qing dynasty's reign.

My generation's defining moment is Vietnam. I took the Philippine Air Force exam in the '60s and passed. Called for training, I appeared for my physical at the Air Force Base. At the time, other than the glamour of flying the F-4 and joining the Blue Angels' flying in formation, there was not much about the service that was appealing to my nascent pacifist sensibilities. My Dad was in the subversive underground during Japan's occupation but was saved by a Japanese officer who warned him to skip town for his name was on the wanted list. So I had a forgiving stance over wartime atrocities, and a universal disdain for war as an instrument of a nation's foreign relations.

With the U.S. and Philippine involvement in the Vietnam war, and our academic foray into the United States on the other half of the '60s, we forsook the PAF stars and went flying with Michelangelo's cherubs, instead. With other theologs, I protested the war.

In 2007, I joined the Teaching Vietnam Teachers Network and at-

tended training at the American University campus that summer. I was a bit apprehensive since Jan Scruggs' VVMF, the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Foundation, sponsored TVTN, and though they advertized that the group involved both side of the war debate, as well as promote the Wall that Heals, I was not sure I would really be welcomed. My doubts were banished quickly on the first day. Sitting among the guests that welcomed our batch of participants was Pulitzer-Prize winner Stanley Karnow, author of *Vietnam: A History* and *In our Image: America's Empire in the Philippines*. His reporting and book pretty much molded the academic perspective of the conflict; he also informed our subsequent outlook on U.S.-Philippine relations.

Henry Kissinger these days makes light of his "loss" to his Vietnamese counterpart Le Duc Tho at the Paris Peace talks, his co-awardee of the Nobel Peace Prize. He was among the main speakers in a recent State Department History of Indochina conference though Hillary Clinton was candid enough to state that she did not share his views on Vietnam in the '70s. It is, however, a measure of our maturity that the consummate diplomat of realpolitik and detenté, chastised at the time and in his memoirs for obfuscating U.S. foreign policies and decision-making process, nevertheless, remains in good stead with the nation's foreign service bureaucrats and intellectuals.

Which brings us to the present and the living. As the VFW slogan declares, "Honor the dead, take care of the living." We cannot undo the past, and there is no need to expend energy for remorse and recrimination, let alone, revenge. Karnow was asked by Gen. Mc-Crystal what lesson in Vietnam he would give him before embarking on his tour of duty in Afghanistan. Karnow was succinct: "We should not have been there."

The Jesuit Chardin wrote: "The task before us now, if we are not to perish, is to shake off our ancient prejudices, and rebuild the earth." This day, it might be well to list where we need to disengage so that we can be meaningfully engaged. Remembrances might then be meaningful for the day, significant of yesterday, and helpful for the morrow.

Konfiansan publiku

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.

Para todú i mattiron i pagu mamagpu na eleksion, sumen dañkulu na konfiansa ha resibe si Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan ginen botadot Marianas.

Hafa signifkasioña este na eleksion? Klaru na kabales intellihe i botadot ya ti listu tatte gi doli na dadalag Covenant Party.

Mas u didog malaet' na sentimenton publiku deste pagu mona. Mas este na sentimentu u machalegua' piot 'nai mas didog i probleman fondu gi kahan Marianas.

Gigon mas ha atisague' maribahan fondu, mas didog ma-utot sueddo siha ya ti bai' lache na siempre lamegai umana' fan basta gi chechu' niha.

Yangin para u guaha inalie' offisiat siha yan i bandan bisnis, dididi' atrasau lau maulegña yangin mapetsige ke umafatkeluye estake todú ha luñu linala' tautau-ta.

Hu kuestiotiona hafa masusede gi mapos na dies años na ni unu kumaikai-gue para u tatiye seriosamente i mañogñog fondun publiku deste ayu na tiempu.

Kulan tafa' huegu lau estague' pagu na i dadalagta muna' fañgikilulug hit sin minalago'ta. Hagas hu apagat offisiat publiku siha na todú asuntun linahyan debi u guaha planu.

Este na eksisiu i mamatinas planu un' planunuye para i man-

mamamaila'. Lau kulan hayuta i para tafañgalamten 'nai esta ha gacha hit induktu. Lau buente man-yayas i los prohimus ya kada ratu marepasa i mismu kuentas gi hilu esperansa na u diffirensiau i resutta lau parehu numeru kada biahe. De dios mihu!

Mauleg sa' i publiku ha richasa ginagau i pattidan Covenant ya ha pega tatte si Kilili. Hu agradezi unestu yan sinseru na finachuchoña siha gi hilu kabales na animu.

Haf' taimanu hu tulaika hinasson un' estudiante 'nai ha sablasusyu na i familiaña si Kilili para umabota sa' man-ninae' siha computer. Ni kuantu na mea kulpa makat na kontrariu. Bien felis Congressman Kilili. Na banidosu hau sa' gaige i publiku gi tatemu! Congratulations!

Pinadesen Chinatsaga

Makat na mattiru tafafana' na tiempu ginen baban ekonomia. Tat ti umu'uguñg pot maditenen pagamientu, scholarship, tax famaguan yan tax return.

Todu obligasion nina' fan abarambau deste apas primet na guma familia, sasyan, neñkanu; trastes eskuela; ayudu para estudiante deste Guam esta sanlagu; apas kandet yan hanom; yan otu siha obligasion familia.

I dañu diariu yan sinparat. I kuestion: Para ñgaian 'nai u sotta hit i mattiron tiempun eskases? Afañielos, mientras ti ta sodadae' tulai-kan \$900 miyon pesos ni maliñgu gi mediu nobenta siha na sakan, i ta fafana' na chinatsaga u mas didog ke pagu.

Mediu pinadesen siglu ya ni unu sumupone na i palasyon unai ni ta hatsa gi kanton tasi siempre u mayamag gigon añglo ñaihon i hanom tasi sa' guinaguaipe ni mañglo'.

Ekonomian isla sumen makat sa' taya' mina guine gi tano'ta. Taya guinahata fuera ke minan botkan giya Pagan. Lau ni ennau esta maliñgu todú sa' kinilili' ni mañglo yan uchan pagyo deste 1984. Hafa mohon otu koyentura 'nai siña ta aregla tatte ya u homlo' ekonomiata taimanu antes?

■ ■ ■

Un' man-sağan ilelegña, "Ni unu baston San Jose". Hu pula' este

na fino man-amko'ta kumu ilelegña ni unu gi entre hita petmanente.

I disision publiku guine gi alacha na eleksion ha mulinu i mayoria na pattida (Covenant) kulan un' achu gi halom tasi ni ginileg ni napun man-dañkulu estake mama' unai gi sanpapa'.

Estague' fuetsan publiku ya chatmiyu fan malelefa sa' siempre u gaige talu gi 2012 na eleksion lehislatura. Siempre u anog talu hafa malago'ña i publiku gi setbenteña siha gi hegsu i Deni. Fanunog un' ratu ya tafan hita manohge gi parehu yanu na plaset.

Letter to the Editor

Disappointed

Dear legislators,

I am quite disappointed in our representatives who voted to pass the marijuana bill. It seemed that you don't care about the future of the CNMI most especially our kids. What the heck is wrong with you people?

You'd rather see this teeny-weeny tax from the marijuana bill and throw away those huge amount of federal funds earmarked for those critical departments. Here we are teaching our kids that drugs are a "no-no" but what you've just done is open up a can of bad worms.

Most of you have kids of your own and even grandchildren. How can you ruin their future just like that. Unbelievable! You all think you're doing the community a big favor well you're all wrong. You just ruined the community! I know that hard times are here but don't do drugs just to do a trial and error hoping that it will bounce the economy into a state of good.

To our Senators and our governor, please do not pass the marijuana bill!

Jack Taitano
New York

CORRUPTION

From Page 10

services contracts in the amount of \$1,315,102.00. Again no action has been taken. Ask the AGO why?

A former Secretary of Finance misused (I like that word) \$75,000.00 during the fiscal years of 1995 to 1997. A civil case is still pending after 11 years! Why isn't he in jail? As the AGO!

The Marianas Public Lands Authority failed to collect \$3,743,740.00 rentals from eight quarry operators for six lease years from 1990 to 1995. Is this amount only pocket change so why bother going after it? Why no action?

I recently learned of one guy who walked away without paying over \$1 million for lease land fees on government property. Another

example is that the government overpaid \$96,100.00 for two professional contracts. So everyone concerned is looking the other way. Why? Isn't that stolen money from us?

There are many more. Check them out yourself on your internet CNMI Office of the Public Auditor Archives. There many more juicy cases that the AGO is still looking at! Yes, sure!

What is even equally interesting is that the provisions of 1 CMC 2307 established the Interagency Audit Coordinating Group consisting of the presiding officer and minority leaders of each House of the Legislature, the Secretary of Finance, and the Special Assistant for Management and Budget. According to this law, this Coordinating Group is to review all audit reports issued by the Public Auditor. But guess what?

They are so busy that this small matter of collecting delinquent money stolen from the CNMI (us the citizens) is not important

enough to meet and go after the bad guys. The group have not met since 2000! Wow! Why not?

I will write about more acts of corruption next week but meanwhile you check them out also. There so many more. Let's ask ourselves what keeps us from going after these crooks? Don't we care? Yet we keep crying we don't have any money. The Legislature wants to increase our taxes while all this money floats away.

I have repeatedly stated that the lack of money is not the reason why our problems are not resolved. It is the lack of will and strong desire to resolve them.

In closing, consider Benjamin Franklin's words:






"Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of a master...."

Next week let's continue the discussion about corruption in our beloved islands. Until then have a great week.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 79
Palau	Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Yap	Rain	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 82 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 81 ▼ 77

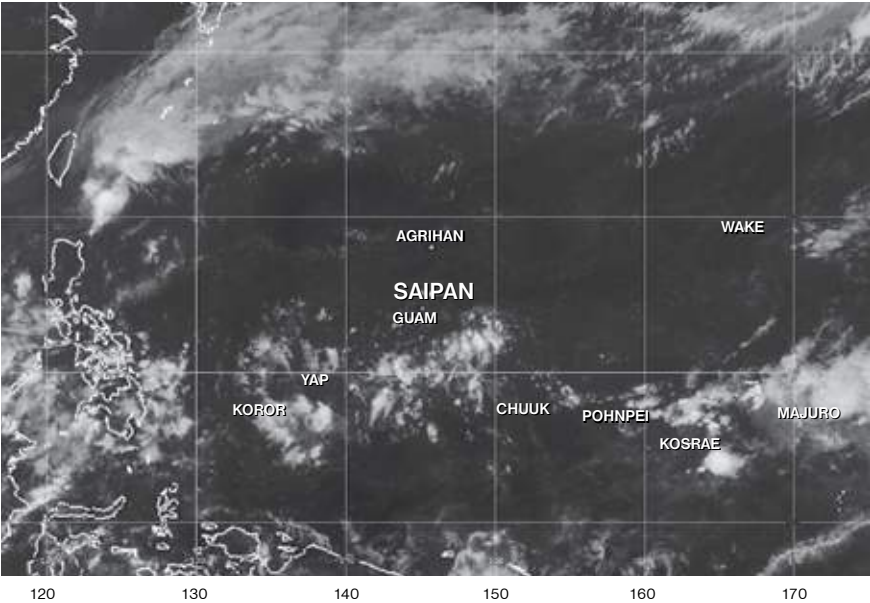
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55 ▼ 33
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 55
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 73
London	Rain	▲ 47 ▼ 42
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 51
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 51
Miami	Showers	▲ 79 ▼ 68
New York	Sunny	▲ 56 ▼ 40
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 50
Paris	Showers	▲ 49 ▼ 39
Pusan	Windy	▲ 57 ▼ 42
Rome	Rain	▲ 67 ▼ 53
Salem	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 40
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 51
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 47 ▼ 35
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 51
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 60 ▼ 44

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:44 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
9:47 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
3:13 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet	
7:58 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough near Yap extends northward from 5N137E to 12N140E. Another trough southeast of Guam extends northeastward from 9N144E to 12N149E. The two troughs are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Yap and Palau and southeast of Guam within 150 miles of a line from 6N137E to 12N140E. A trade wind disturbance near Kosrae is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 3N and 9N from 159E to 166E. A trade-wind trough extends eastward across the Marshall Islands from 7N168E to 9N178E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located over Majuro and near Kwajalein between 4N and 12N east of 166E. An upper-level trough extending southwestward from 25N180 to 11N156E is triggering scattered showers and thunderstorms east of Wake Island between 17N and 20N east of 170E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Tuesday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Wednesday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:57 AM	5:39 PM
Sunday	6:59 AM	6:33 PM
Monday	8:00 AM	7:30 PM
Tuesday	10:41 AM	10:18 PM
Wednesday	11:25 AM	11:09 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily	DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	2:45am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/286	7:55am	8:25pm	Daily via NRT
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09313/893	7:55am	10:10pm	3 via GUM-Palau	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	5 via GUM-Palau	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau
OZ606/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	6 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
				C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ606/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Business

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR

SCS Inc. completes renovation

You can say Saipan Computer Services, Inc. has been super-sized.

Last Oct. 25, the company unveiled its expanded 3,200-square-foot office in Garapan, a makeover business development director Jerry Tiu describes as the first salvo of SCS, Inc.'s planned improvements.

"It took two months to complete the major works; the part necessary to open the new storefront. After this, depending on our workload, we will be slowly moving on the other improvements," he said.

Tiu said, simply put, the company outgrew its previous 1,600-square-foot space, making the expansion a necessity.

"There were several reasons why we proceeded with the project. First, we would like to provide our customers a more comfortable environment in the store. Over the years, the customer area has shrunk to a very small and tight section of the store. Secondly, there is now space allocated to highlight the additional products and services

we have made available to the market. In this manner, the customers would feel that there are more choices for them when they come to the store," said Tiu.

The expansion project involved turning the 1,600-square-foot space recently vacated by a Korean restaurant next door to SCS, Inc. into the new "Saipan Computer Services, Inc. and Ideal Signs" lobby and operations area.

High risk, high reward

Tiu said despite the hard economic times, the company proceeded with the expansion because Saipan Computer Services, Inc. and Ideal Signs ultimately believes in the future of the CNMI.

"From 2007 to the present, the situation has been on a steady slide. We are talking of all sorts of uncertainties from air seats inventory, to tourist arrivals, to currency exchange rates, to skilled workers' status, and so on and so forth. We, the small businesses have very minimal



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Computer Services, Inc. and Ideal Signs employees pose for a group photo inside the store's expanded customer area.

influence on these variables that directly affect our economy. We can sit back and wait. But until when? In taking this risk, we signify our confidence on the

future of the CNMI. The future will be better than now. And as we try to survive now, we do not forget preparing to provide even better services and products to

the community," he said.

New product and offerings

Tiu said like any other striving company, Saipan Computer

Services and Ideal Signs is struggling like everyone else.

"It has been a roller-coaster ride for us these past four years. It is evident from our sales figures that across the board, individuals, private companies, and the government's capacity to spend have shrunk considerably," he said.

However, because Saipan Computer Services, Inc. and Ideal Signs has dedicated itself to the future and won't idly standby, Tiu said the company will be unveiling new products and services in the next couple of months.

"At the current situation of the islands, the only way to cope with the shrinking demand and business would be to diversify product and services offerings. We intend to do so. This process would be an ongoing concern for us," he said.

Tiu said proof that Saipan Computer Services, Inc. and Ideal Signs is always a step ahead is its recent hirings. The company during the past couple of months hired a new systems analyst, a fabrication specialist, and an information technology manager.

Obama calls India creator, not poacher, of US jobs

MUMBAI, India (AP)—Searching for help half a world away, President Barack Obama on Saturday embraced India as the next jobs-creating giant for hurting Americans, not a cheap-labor rival that outsources opportunity from the United States.

Fresh off a political trouncing at home, Obama was determined to show tangible, economic results on his long Asia trip, and that was apparent from almost the moment he set foot on a steamy afternoon in the world's largest democracy. By the end of the first of his three days in India, he was promoting \$10 billion in trade deals—completed in time for his visit—that the White House says will create about 54,000 jobs at home.

That's a modest gain compared with the extent of the enduring jobless crisis in the United States. Economists say



AP

U.S. President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama make a statement after their visit to the memorial for the Nov. 26, 2008 terror attack victims at the Taj Mahal Palace and Tower Hotel in Mumbai, India, Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010.

it would require on the level of 300,000 new jobs a month to put a real dent in an unemployment rate stuck near 10 percent.

Yet to Obama, the bigger

picture was the lucrative potential of an unleashed trading relationship between India and the United States. He seemed comfortable and energized

away from Washington, days removed from the GOP's election thumping.

"For America, this is a jobs strategy," Obama said of his emphasis on trade, although it could stand as a motto for his 10-day trip. He is spending Sunday with young people in Mumbai and then heading onto meetings in New Delhi, the capital, before shifting later in the week ahead to Indonesia and economic talks in

South Korea and Japan.

In India for the first time, Obama quickly got a sense of riches and poverty, history and tragedy.

His helicopter ride into this bustling financial center took in some of the country's slums. His luxury accommodation for the night, the Taj Mahal hotel, was one of the sites of a terrorist rampage in Mumbai that killed 166 people. Obama and his wife, Michelle, paid quiet tribute to the 31 people slain at the hotel, looking over their names inscribed in a memorial before

meeting with victims' families and survivors of the shootings.

"We visit here to send a very clear message that in our determination to give our people a future of security and prosperity, the United States and India stand united," Obama said from an outdoor plaza, the soaring Gateway of India and the Arabian Sea behind him. "We'll never forget."

Indian commentators seized on the president's failure to mention Pakistan, India's neighbor and bitter rival. Pakistan was home to the 10 assailants.

Bernanke defends new Fed plan to boost economy

JEKYLL ISLAND, Ga. (AP)—Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke defended the Fed's new \$600 billion program to aid the economy on Saturday, rejecting concerns that it will spur runaway inflation.

Critics, including some Fed officials, fear that all the money being injected into the economy could ignite inflation or speculative bubbles in the prices of bonds or commodities.

Speaking to a conference on the Georgia coast, Bernanke

said the new program, announced Wednesday, won't push inflation to "super ordinary" levels.

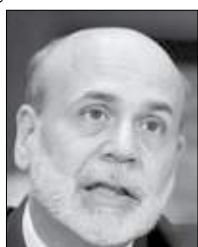
The Fed will buy \$600 billion worth of government bonds in a bid to make loans cheaper and get Americans to spend more. Doing so would help the economy and prompt companies to boost hiring.

The economy hasn't been growing fast enough to reduce unemployment, which has been stuck at a high of 9.6 percent for three straight

months. The Fed worries that high unemployment, lackluster wage gains and still-weak home values will weigh on consumer spending, a major drive of overall economic activity.

Because companies are loath to raise retail prices in this climate, inflation has been running at very low levels. That gives the Fed leeway to launch the new aid program.

Earlier in the week, Bernanke expressed confidence that once the economy is on firm footing, the Fed will be able to smoothly soak up all that money without harming the economy and unleashing inflation.



Bernanke

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Economy recovering, but recession's shadow is long

NEW YORK (AP)—Layaway, once the province of the poor, has gone mainstream. At the Mall of America in Minnesota, shoppers dart in for just one or two things. In New York, socialites do the unthinkable: They wear the same ball gown twice. During the Great Recession, people made drastic changes in how they spent their money. They stopped treating credit cards as cash. They learned to save and learned to wait. Now the recession is over, at least technically, and the economy is growing again, at least a little. But many changes in spending habits that most Americans first saw as temporary have taken hold, perhaps for good, some economists say. This is the reality of the new American consumer—focused, cautious and tactical.

China's president visits Portugal, eyes investment

LISBON, Portugal (AP)—Chinese President Hu Jintao has started a two-day state visit to Portugal where officials are hoping investments by Beijing will help revive one of the European Union's frailest economies. China has been using its large foreign currency reserves to expand its economic presence in western Europe. Hu traveled from France where companies won

deals with China worth euro16 billion (\$22.8 billion). In Portugal, Hu is expected to preside over the signing of trade agreements and private sector investments. Hu was meeting Saturday with Portuguese President Anibal Cavaco Silva. On Sunday, he was due to hold talks with Prime Minister Jose Socrates. Hu is accompanied by a delegation of Chinese company executives.

Walgreens sues Wegmans in logo dispute

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP)—Drugstore chain Walgreens is suing the Wegmans supermarket chain, claiming the New York-based grocery's logo is too similar to its own. The trademark infringement lawsuit was filed Oct. 27 at a federal court in Virginia. Both companies use a similar script in their logos. Deerfield, Ill.-based Walgreen Co. says in the court complaint that consumers could be misled into thinking the companies are connected. Walgreens says its "flying W" deserves trademark protection because it has been in use since 1951. But Rochester-based Wegmans said the scripted "W" it adopted in 2008 is actually a copy of logos used by the supermarket in the 1930s. Wegmans spokeswoman Jeanne Colletuori told the Democrat and Chronicle of Rochester that the company also didn't think there was any possibility consumers could be confused.

Nation

Oakland residents awaken to broken windows, debris

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Looking out her front window in a usually quiet residential neighborhood in this city, Deanna Goldstein's knees began to shake.

More than 100 protesters were hemmed in by police in riot gear. A trash can was blazing on the street.

"I came home early from downtown to get away from the craziness, but the craziness came to me," she said.

In the past, the violent protests over a white transit officer's slaying of an unarmed black man trashed downtown Oakland businesses. But after Johannes Mehserle on Friday received the minimum two-year sentence for slaying Oscar Grant, angry demonstrators marched into residential areas near Lake Merritt for the first time, putting innocent people in harm's way.

Police arrested 152 protesters, including seven juveniles, on suspicion of crimes including vandalism, unlawful assembly and disturbing the peace.

Oakland police spokesman Jeff Thomason said 56 of those arrested were from outside the city. Investigators will be reviewing video and photographs of protesters damaging property to help prosecutors file charges, he said.

A "Justice for Oscar Grant" community meeting Saturday night at the Olivet Missionary Baptist Church in Oakland drew about three dozen people, including at least one person who was arrested Friday.

Yvette Felarca said she was taken into custody while simply standing in the crowd with a megaphone. "I was arrested for protesting and demanding justice for Oscar Grant," she said.

After the meeting, Minister Keith Muhammad expressed disappointment



A demonstrator jumps on a car hood in Oakland, Calif., following the sentencing of Johannes Mehserle on Friday, Nov. 5, 2010. AP

Boy's killing harkens back to troubled times in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Arms flexed in a muscleman pose, Aaron Shannon Jr. was getting ready for a Halloween party while his grandfather snapped photos of him in a Spiderman costume.

Suddenly, the click of the camera lens was replaced by the pop, pop of gunfire and the 5-year-old boy was shot in the head.

The Oct. 31 attack—blamed on misdirected gunfire from suspected Crips gang members raiding Bloods turf—harkened back to the carnage of the 1980s and early '90s when brazen young men patrolled the streets of the area once called South Central and gave little thought to living or dying.

Then, Aaron's death likely would have flared the Crips-Bloods rivalry even further and been followed by a retaliation shooting, then another

and so on.

"In the old days, this would have been a massive bloodbath," said Guillermo Cespedes, head of the city's gang reduction program. "An incident like this, even a couple of years ago, would have created many more days of violence."

But it hasn't. Immediately after the shooting, at least a half dozen city-funded gang interventionists, experts who are often former gang members, and other volunteers hit the streets in a bid to prevent retaliation.

Residents incensed by the killing of a child were quick to provide details to police, who on Friday announced the arrest of Marcus Denson, 18, and Leonard Hall, 21. Both are alleged members of the Kitchen Crips, which for years has been warring with a subset of the Bloods known as the Swans.



This image provided by the Los Angeles Police Department shows Aaron Shannon Jr., 5, who was shot while showing off his Halloween costume in his backyard Oct. 31, 2010 in Los Angeles. AP

with the sentence, as well as the judge's decision in the case.

Police said they were not anticipating more violence.

"But we're prepared for it, just in case," said Sgt. Bobby Hookfin. Hookfin did not elaborate on what those preparations were.

Residents who woke up to broken car windows and littered streets were left asking why protesters chose their neighborhood and how it became engulfed in violence.

Nai Saelee, 28, said she was shocked to see that her neighborhood, made up of mostly one- and two-story homes and low-rise apartment complexes, was affected.

The school teacher was kept from

getting to her house by a police cordon, and later found the front windshield of her car damaged.

"I'm glad I wasn't here," she said outside her home Saturday, as Oakland City trash collectors made their way through the area picking up debris.

The arrests began around 8 p.m. on Friday after officers were pelted with rocks and bottles. One officer had his gun taken from him in a fight and another was hit by a car and suffered what police described as a non-life-threatening injury, Oakland Police Chief Anthony Batts said.

He said the violence was confined to a "small number of people" and most protesters remained peaceful. There were no additional reports of unrest overnight.

Marines' leader: Keep policy on gays in military

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The new commandant of the U.S. Marines Corps said Saturday that now is the wrong time to overturn the "don't ask, don't tell" policy prohibiting gays from openly serving in the military, as U.S. troops remain in the thick of war in Afghanistan.

"There's risk involved; I'm trying to determine how to measure that risk," Gen. James Amos said. "This is not a social thing. This is combat effectiveness. That's what the country pays its Marines to do."

Last month, the Pentagon was forced to lift its ban on openly serving gays for eight days after a federal judge in California ordered the military to do so. The Justice Department has appealed, and a federal appeals court granted a temporary stay of the injunction.

Amos said the policy's repeal may have unique consequences for the Marines, which is exempt from a Defense Department rule for troops to have private living quarters except at basic training or officer candidate schools. The Marines puts two people in each room to promote a sense of unity.

"There is nothing more intimate than young men and young women—and when you talk of infantry, we're talking our young men—laying out, sleeping alongside of one another and sharing death, fear and loss of brothers," he said. "I don't

know what the effect of that will be on cohesion. I mean, that's what we're looking at. It's unit cohesion, it's combat effectiveness."

Amos, who began his assignment last month, said he was reviewing preliminary findings of an internal Pentagon survey of the policy that was

sent out to about 400,000 troops and another 150,000 family members. He will make recommendations to Defense Secretary Robert Gates later this month.

Amos declined to comment on the survey results, though portions have been leaked to reporters. Most troops and their families think the policy could be done away with, according to officials familiar with its findings who spoke on condition of anonymity because the results had not been released.

Amos said his top priority was success in Afghanistan—no matter how many people or how much equipment is required—and that he didn't expect any pullback in Marine forces over the next year.

President Barack Obama wants to start to reduce the number of U.S. troops in July, if conditions on the ground allow.

Amos said the U.S. effort is showing progress, pointing to improved security in the Nawa district, but that more work lies ahead in allowing the Afghan army and police to gain control of the country.



Amos



ACROSS THE NATION

Accused Somali pirates headed for US trial

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—Five Somali men accused of firing assault rifles at a Navy ship off the coast of Africa are set to face the first U.S. piracy trial in more than 100 years. The suspected pirates are accused of shooting at the USS Nicholas in an attempt to plunder what they thought was a merchant ship. Instead, they fired on a battle-tested, 453-foot ship patrolling the pirate-infested waters, which shot back, forcing

ing the men to flee in their small skiff, prosecutors said. The men, along with other suspected pirates, were eventually captured and brought back to the U.S. to stand trial. Yet, until now, no case has actually gone to a jury. The federal trial will begin Tuesday and is expected to last about a month.

First gay Episcopal bishop to retire in 2013

The first openly gay Episcopal bishop said Saturday that he will retire in 2013,

due in part to the "constant strain" on him and his family from the worldwide backlash against his election seven years ago. Bishop V. Gene Robinson, whose consecration convulsed the global Anglican fellowship, said he was announcing his retirement early so the transition would be smooth for the Diocese of New Hampshire. He assured congregants that he is healthy and sober after seeking treatment for alcoholism five years ago. He will be 65 when he steps down. Robinson revealed his

plans at the annual diocesan convention in Concord. **(AP)**

Calif. mother IDs missing daughter's bracelet

FULLERTON, Calif. (AP)—The mother of a Southern California woman who vanished almost 10 years ago says a bracelet found on recently unearthed remains belonged to her daughter. Nancy Ekelund of Fullerton told The Associated Press on Saturday that she had met with a coroner's investigator

and instantly recognized the gold-link bracelet she had given her daughter as a present when she was 10. Authorities believe the remains uncovered this week are those of Lynsie Ekelund, a 20-year old Fullerton College student who disappeared in 2001. Authorities say Christopher McAmis recently confessed to strangling her and burying her in Santa Clarita, about 50 miles away. Ekelund says officials are expected to formally confirm the identity of the body next week.

Asia

Fear of volcanic ash cancels flights to Jakarta

MOUNT MERAPI, Indonesia (AP)—Just days before President Barack Obama's long-awaited visit to Indonesia, international carriers canceled flights to the capital over concerns about a volcano spewing ash hundreds of miles away.

The notoriously volatile Mount Merapi unleashed nearly 2 billion cubic feet (50 million cubic meters) of gas, rocks and ash Friday—its most powerful eruption in a century.

Some 138 people have died on its slopes in the past two weeks, and authorities were still struggling Sunday to deal with those injured in the latest blast. The closure of smaller airports near the volcano has

delayed the arrival of burn cream and ventilators for those whose skin and lungs were singed by searing gases.

Obama is scheduled to touch down in Jakarta on Tuesday as part of a 10-day Asian tour. Since taking office, Obama has already twice postponed visits to Indonesia—the world's most populous Muslim nation, where he spent four years as a child.

Paul Belmont, a U.S. Embassy spokesman, said there has been no talk yet of canceling.

"But certainly, if the situation evolves into something like what we saw in Europe not long ago (when the eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull forced

closed airports for a week) it's something we'd have to take seriously," Belmont told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Cathay Pacific, Japan Airlines, Lufthansa and most other international carriers on Saturday announced they had temporarily halted flights to the capital, 280 miles (450 kilometers) west of Merapi.

"The volcanic ash presence in the airways surrounding Jakarta could cause severe damage to our aircraft and engines which could impair safety," said Azharuddin Osman, director of operations for Malaysia Airlines.

Merapi's latest round of eruptions began Oct. 26, followed by more than a dozen

other powerful blasts and thousands of tremors.

The volcano continued to rumble and groan over the weekend, at times spitting ash up to five miles (eight kilometers) in the air, dusting windshields, rooftops and leaves on trees hundreds of miles (kilometers) away.

Indonesian officials were scrambling to deal with the aftermath of Friday's inferno, which left bodies of villagers frozen in their last moments, covered in a thick charcoal-like ash. Several photos taken

by disaster management officials showed corpses welded together, as mothers and fathers clutched their children.

The blast killed more 90 people and injured 200, said Sigit Prihutomo, a senior official at Sardjito hospital, where some patients were admitted with burns covering up to 95 percent of their bodies.

The tiny hospital at the foot of the mountain has the only burn unit in area. But with just nine beds, it's been forced to turn away all but the most severe cases.

With nearby airports closed because of poor visibility, hospital officials said lots of supplies—burn cream, oxygen masks and saline solution for IVs—were stuck in Jakarta.

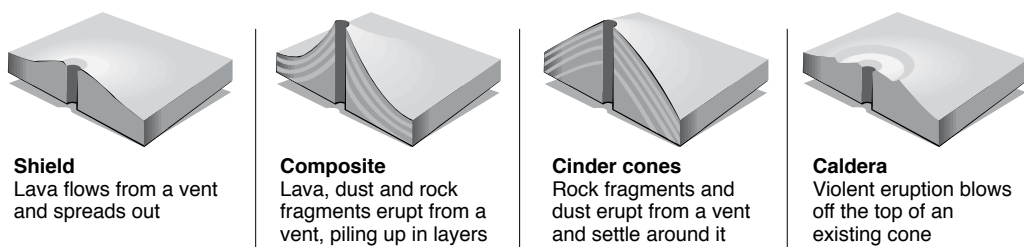
Doctors said at least four patients still desperately needed ventilators, which protect scorched and inflamed lung tissue from ash still hanging in the air.

Until the machines arrive, nursing students were pumping emergency respirators—normally only used in short ambulance trips—by hand.

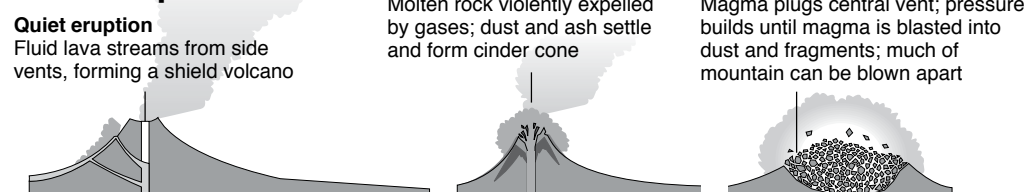
Volcanoes: How much do you know?

Volcanoes reveal the powerful forces that are constantly reshaping the Earth's surface. Their eruptions can destroy whole towns, build up islands or level mountains.

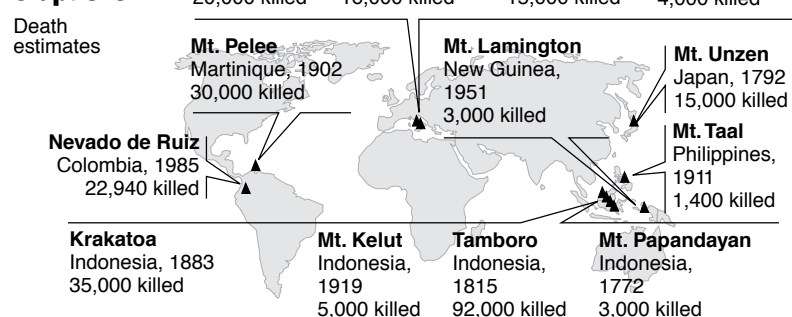
Kinds of volcanoes



Kinds of eruptions



Deadliest eruptions



Where volcanoes form

- Areas where plates of Earth's crust are pulling apart
- Areas where magma (molten rock) burns a hole through the plates
- Areas where the Earth's plates collide

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Source: World Book Encyclopedia, Great International Atlas, Atlas of the World, AP

Missing turbine part key to A380 emergency probe

SYDNEY (AP)—Investigators of last week's engine explosion on a Qantas superjumbo focused their search Sunday on a missing piece of turbine from the Rolls-Royce engine, and the airline said it hoped to have its grounded fleet of A380s back in service within days.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau, which is leading an international investigation into the blowout on the world's newest and largest airliner, appealed for help from residents of Indonesia's Batam island to find the missing chunk of a turbine disc.

The island was scattered with debris last Thursday when one of the A380's four Trent 900 engines failed minutes into

a flight to Sydney, with 466 people aboard. The engine was quickly shut down and the plane returned to Singapore and safely made an emergency landing.

"The recovery of that disk could be crucial to a full understanding of the nature of the engine failure, and may have implications for the prevention of future similar occurrences," the bureau said in a statement.

It released a photograph to media of a jagged and bent piece of turbine disc from the Trent 900 engine and asked that anyone who might have found a similar piece should hand it to police.

Qantas CEO Alan Joyce has blamed the blowout on a mechanical or design fault in the

engine, not maintenance. Experts said the shattered turbine could indicate the failure point.

Qantas grounded its six double-decker A380s and began rigorous safety checks. Lufthansa and Singapore Airlines, the other airlines that fly A380s fitted with Trent 900 engines, also briefly grounded their planes last week but resumed services after completing checks.

Joyce told reporters on Saturday that each engine on its A380s would undergo eight hours of tests, and no plane would fly until all checks—being undertaken in Sydney and Los Angeles—were complete.

"We are hopeful that within days the A380 fleet will start flying again," he said.

Myanmar holds rare elections amid heavy criticism

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Voters in Myanmar's first election in 20 years cast their ballots Sunday amid both a barrage of criticism that the balloting was rigged in favor of the ruling military and hope that some change toward democratic reform might nonetheless follow.

About 40,000 polling stations across the Southeast Asian country opened at 6 a.m. (2330 GMT) and were to close 10 hours later. The regime left everyone guessing as to when results would be announced, saying only they could come "in time."

However, it was almost certain that through pre-election engineering the junta-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party would emerge as the victor despite widespread popular opposition to 48 years of military rule.

The streets of Myanmar's largest city were unusually quiet and early voter attendance appeared light at many polling stations. Some residents said they were staying home as rumors circulated that

bombs would explode.

Riot police were deployed at some road junctions, but no soldiers were seen near the balloting sites.

Voters variously expressed fear and defiance.

The USDP is fielding 1,112 candidates for the 1,159 seats in the two-house national parliament and 14 regional parliaments. Its closest rival, the National Unity Party with 995 candidates, is backed by supporters of Myanmar's previous military ruler.

The largest opposition party, the National Democratic Force, is contesting just 164 spots.

Election rules were clearly written to benefit the USDP, and hundreds of potential opposition candidates—including pro-democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi, whose party won a landslide victory in the last election in 1990 but was barred from taking office—are under house arrest or in prison. Several parties have complained that voters have been strong-armed into voting for the junta's proxy party.

Whatever the results, the con-

stitution sets aside 25 percent of parliamentary seats for military appointees.

"I cannot stay home and do nothing," said Yi Yi, a 45-year-old computer technician. "I have to go out and vote against USDP. That's how I will defy them (the junta)."

Others said they had abstained from voting because that would legitimize the election.

"I voted for the (democracy party) in 1990. This is my second time to vote," said a 60-year-old man, Tin Aung, when asked which party he had voted for.

He then looked around and added, "I am really scared."

The election was immediately slammed by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who called it a reflection of "heart-breaking" repressive conditions in the country.

But in a speech Sunday to university students in Melbourne, Australia, Clinton also said she hoped the elections might produce a few new leaders who could change the country's direction.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Obama, Calderon talk after Mexican drug shootout

MUMBAI, India (AP)—President Barack Obama is repeating his support for Mexican officials after one of Mexico's most wanted drug lords was killed in a shootout. The White House says that Obama, who's traveling in India, spoke by telephone on Saturday with Mexican President Felipe Calderon (fay-LEE'-pay kahl-duh-ROHN'). On Friday, there was an hours-long gun battle in the border city of Matamoros that killed a cartel head, Antonio Ezequiel Cardenas Guillen, also known as "Tony the Storm." Obama says the U.S. supports Mexico's efforts against organized criminal groups. The White House says Obama offered condolences on the death of Mexican armed forces in the operation as well as the death of a reporter who was covering the shootout.

Philippine volcano shoots steam and ash

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A volcano in the Philippines has released a plume of steam and ash but scientists say an explosive eruption is not expected. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology says Saturday's activity

at Bulusan volcano was caused by groundwater interacting with hot rocks and not rising magma. The cloud of steam and ash rose 1,980 feet (600 meters) and fell over areas as far as six miles (10 kilometers) from the mountain. The institute says there could be more hydrothermal disturbances and has warned people to keep away from a 2.5-mile (4-kilometer) permanent danger zone around Bulusan's summit. Bulusan is one of the country's 23 active volcanoes. It is located about 240 miles (380 kilometers) southeast of Manila.

Confidant of North Korea's Kim Jong Il dies

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Jo Myong Rok, a longtime confidant of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il who traveled to Washington in 2000 on a then unprecedented goodwill mission, has died. He was 82. Jo—who served as first vice chairman of the North's powerful National Defense Commission—died Saturday of inveterate heart disease, the official Korean Central News Agency reported in a dispatch from Pyongyang. "His death is a great loss to the party, the army and people of (North Korea) waging a dynamic struggle to win the victory of the cause of building a thriving socialist nation," it said.

World

Haiti 'got very lucky' as Tomas skirted island

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Hurricane Tomas pushed northward from Haiti on Saturday, leaving villagers to mop up, evacuees to return to their tents and most everyone relieved that the country did not suffer what could have been its first big disaster since the January earthquake.

The storm's western track caused widespread floods, wind damage along the far edge of Haiti's coast and is blamed for the deaths of at least eight people. It was a serious blow, but far better than had been feared in a nation where storms have been known to kill thousands, and more than 1 million quake survivors were living under tarps and tents.

"It really didn't dump a lot of rain on us, so we got very lucky," said Steve McAndrew, Haiti earthquake relief coordinator for the American Red Cross.

Haitian civil protection officials were still receiving reports from the remote mountainous countryside and the storm's outer bands continued dropping rain on the north. Floodwaters covered streets in Leogane, the town closest to the epicenter of the Jan. 12 quake, and about a foot of water stood on a thoroughfare of the flood-prone northwestern city of Gonaives. Mountain towns were cut off by flooded roads and landslides, including one reported by U.N. peacekeepers in the mountains near the southern port of Jacmel.

But it was clear that the most-feared catastrophes were averted: Earthquake



A man carries a TV through a flooded street after the passing of Hurricane Tomas in the neighborhood of Cite Soleil in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Saturday Nov. 6, 2010.

camps were not torn apart by wind, storm surge did not drown the oceanside slums, the La Quinte River—which has twice drowned Gonaives above the first stories of its buildings since 2004—stayed in its bed.

U.S. Marine helicopters buzzed the

southern coast from the USS Iwo Jima, reporting back good news.

"It sounds like from what everybody's seeing that it's no worse than after a major storm here. There's some standing water out there but nothing's washed away," U.S. embassy spokes-

man Jon Piechowski said.

Aid workers and the government in part credited mitigation efforts—for instance a U.S. Agency for International Development-funded effort to dredge and reinforce the La Quinte after the last catastrophic flood there in 2008. Haitian

civil protection coordinator Nadia Lo-chard, who oversees Port-au-Prince, said lives were saved because people listened to the department's advice.

But given the tumult during last-minute preparations of the storm, it is clear things could have been much worse if the storm had veered to the east.

The U.N. Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported shortages in shelter material and other items, including rehydration salts for a cholera epidemic that officials were concerned the floods could spread. That danger remains, and medical workers were working across affected areas Saturday to contain the spread of the outbreak.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russian reporter in coma after beating in Moscow

MOSCOW (AP)—Two unknown men waited for Russian journalist Oleg Kashin to come home and then bludgeoned him on his head, arms and legs. Yet his editor said it was Kashin's mangled hands—with part of one pinky broken off—that showed his attackers wanted to make sure he never wrote again. Kashin, a 30-year-old reporter for the respected Kommersant newspaper, was hospitalized in a drug-induced coma after the attack early Saturday outside his Moscow apartment. He is the latest in a line of journalists and activists to be assaulted in Russia. In most cases, the perpetrators are never found, but the Kremlin appeared determined to show that this time things will be different.

Giant Jesus statue completed in Polish town

SWIEBODZIN, Poland (AP)—A gigantic statue of Jesus that Poles claim is the world's largest rose majestically above a small town on Saturday, as the grandiose dream of a local priest finally came to pass. The white statue with outstretched arms and golden crown rising above the western Polish plains in Swiebodzin provides competition to Rio de Janeiro's iconic Christ the Redeemer. The mayor of the western Polish town, Dariusz Bekisz, claims it is now the world's tallest.

Argentine gays proud of 500 same-sex marriages

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)—Thousands marched in Argentina's Gay Pride parade on Saturday, celebrating the country's status as the first in Latin America to legalize same-sex marriage and vowing to campaign for new rights for transgender people. More than 500 same-sex couples have been married since President Cristina Fernandez signed the law on July 21, said Esteban Paulo, President of the Argentine Lesbians, Gay, Bi, and Transgender Federation. The gay marriage law has been a boon for tourism, said Pablo De Luca, founder of the Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce in Buenos Aires. He estimates that 100,000 more gays and lesbians have visited Argentina as a result of the law.

Drug cartels disrupt basic services in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Five Pemex workers went to their jobs at a government-owned gas compression plant near the Texas border six months ago and never returned. Masked men, apparently members of a drug cartel operating there, had warned employees of Petroleos Mexicanos that they were no longer allowed to enter the area.

Around the same time in May, three inspectors for Mexico's Environment Department headed into the wooded mountains west of Mexico City to investigate a pollution complaint. Their tortured bodies were found the next day. Authorities said they stumbled onto a drug lab.

With killings and disappearances to assert their authority, Mexico's drug cartels are beginning to interfere with everyday government activities in pockets of the country, keeping workers off their turf and interrupting some of the most basic services.

Not only do they maintain checkpoints and kill police or mayors to control territory, they now try to keep everyone from midlevel officials to delivery truck drivers and meter readers out of rural areas they use to transport drugs, stash weapons and kidnap victims, and hide from authorities. In the process, they are blocking deliveries of gasoline, pension checks, farm aid and other services to Mexicans.

Cartels also rob or extort people receiving government checks, as organized crime branches out from drug running into other illegal businesses.

These interruptions have even affected the U.S., as agricultural inspections at the

border have slowed. The recent search for the body of a missing American tourist on a border lake was suspended under threats of drug-cartel violence and the assassination of the police commander in charge of the search.

"Everything's stopped," said Maria Luz Hopkins, a 69-year-old retiree in Tumbutama, south of the Arizona border city of Nogales. "There's no construction. Nobody is working the fields because they don't have gasoline or diesel. The people that used to bring gasoline, they don't come. How can people work?"

Hopkins complained to officials in the Sonora state capitol, Hermosillo, when the government stopped delivering pension checks. She said they

came last month in a convoy of about 20 heavily armed trucks after missing a bimonthly payment over the summer.

Federal officials say these are isolated incidents, and deny there is any area of the country where the government can't operate; as evidence, they point to the 2009 congressional elections and the 2010 census.

"There might have been incidents, but this doesn't mean that government business is stopping anywhere in the country," said federal security spokesman Alejandro Poire, while adding, "if and when it happens, federal forces, if need be, will be there to enforce the law and keep government business operating normally."

Crisis-hit Greece votes under threat of snap poll

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—In a major test of support for austerity measures, voters in crisis-hit Greece will cast ballots in local elections Sunday that could force the Socialist government to call a snap general election.

The vote pits Prime Minister George Papandreou's 13-month-old Socialist government against an array of opposition parties upset with the terms of a rescue loan from the European Union and International Monetary Fund.

Papandreou warned that he will call an early general election if his government loses significant support in the regional poll Sunday—spooking bond markets over Greece's ability to cope with its massive debts.

"Several months ago, we saved

Greece from bankruptcy, but the state of alert is not over," Papandreou told an election rally on Friday.

"I have no desire to go to national elections," he said. "But for this massive effort by the country to succeed we must have public unity and dedication when faced with this great challenge."

The Greek government has endured waves of strikes and disruptive protests against cost-cutting reforms demanded to start receiving the euro110 billion (\$140 billion) in international emergency loans. Papandreou's popularity slipped in recent months, hurt by the ongoing recession and a surge in unemployment and small business failures.

Pressure for deeper cuts is likely to

increase, when the EU later in November will revise Greece's 2009 budget deficit to 15 percent of gross domestic product—or even higher—from the current projection of 13.6 percent.

The Socialists still appear unlikely to suffer a heavy defeat Sunday, as opinion polls predict a roughly even split with main opposition conservatives in 13 regional governor races.

Conservative leader Antonis Samaras urged the government on Friday to "change course" and replace austerity with a policy of state investment to stimulate the economy.

"The prime minister should visit ordinary people and realize how much they are suffering," he said in his final campaign appearance.

Health & Fitness

Study: CT scans modestly cut lung cancer deaths

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP MEDICAL WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—A major study shows giving heavy smokers special CT scans can detect lung cancer early enough to modestly lower their risk of death—the first clear evidence that a screening test may help fight the nation's top cancer killer.

Now the hurdle is deciding who should get these spiral CT scans and how often, because the tests carry their own risks, including repeated radiation exposure and a lot of false alarms that trigger unnecessary repeat testing and even surgery.

"This finding has important implications for public health, with the potential to save many lives among those at greatest risk for lung cancer," said National Cancer Institute Director Dr. Harold Varmus, who released the study results Thursday. But, "we don't know the ideal way yet to do this screening."

Specialists with the American Cancer Society—which hadn't recommended the screening because of lack of evidence—planned to evaluate the findings when the full data is published in a few months.

Until then, "the best advice we can give is to encourage people to have conversations with their doctors about whether lung cancer screening is right for them," said chief medical officer Dr. Otis Brawley.

Standard chest X-ray screenings haven't proved powerful enough to reduce lung cancer deaths, so researchers turned to spiral CTs, where a rotating scanner views the lungs at various angles to spot growths when they're about half the size that regular X-ray can. But previous small studies have produced mixed results about whether the CTs work.

The massive National Lung Screening Trial enrolled 53,000 current or former heavy smokers with no initial symptoms of cancer to try to settle the debate. It found 20 percent fewer deaths from lung cancer among those screened with spiral CTs than among those given chest X-rays, the NCI said Thursday, a difference significant enough that it ended the study early.

The actual difference: Of those who got a spiral CT, 354 died over the eight-year study period compared with 442 deaths among those who got chest X-rays.

But with about 200,000 new lung cancers diagnosed in the U.S. each year and 159,000 deaths, even a modest reduction could translate into big benefits. Today, lung cancer usually is diagnosed at advanced stages, and the average five-year survival rate is just 15 percent.

Still, the best advice to avoid

lung cancer, stressed NCI's Varmus: Stop smoking.

Smokers and former smokers have long sought scans in the hopes of earlier lung cancer detection, even though insurance seldom covers the \$300 to \$400 test in people who have no symptoms.

"Clearly it saves lives," said Dr. Stephen Swensen of the Mayo Clinic, among the 33 sites that conducted the massive study. But, because it carries the burden of unnecessary tests and treatment, "society has to figure out if we can afford this."

"We want to make sure what we recommend is appropriate rather than everybody going out and asking for it," added Dr. Edward F. Patz Jr. of Duke University, who was on the committee that helped design and oversee the study.

The new trial enrolled people ages 55 to 74 who are or had been very heavy smokers, puffing at least 30 "pack-years," the equivalent of a pack a day for 30 years or two packs a day for 15 years. They had one scan a year—either spiral CT or a standard chest X-ray—for three years, and then had their health tracked.

NCI's Varmus stressed that the study provided no data on whether screening helped lighter or younger smokers.

There were risks. The CTs frequently mistake scar tissue from an old infection or some other benign lump for cancer, giving about 25 percent of the spiral CT recipients a false alarm. In an earlier Mayo Clinic study of spiral CTs, more than 70 percent had a false alarm, because that study monitored even smaller lung nodules that the newer study ignored, Swensen said.

Then there's the radiation question. The new study used low-dose spiral CTs, equivalent to the radiation from a mammogram. That's far lower than the radiation emitted by regular CT scans used to diagnose various medical conditions, but several times more than is emitted by a standard X-ray.

The NCI will analyze whether the radiation exposures from the three scans in this study changed a smoker's lifetime risk of other radiation-related cancers. Doses can be vary widely at different hospitals using different scanners, but any CTs used for screening should be low-dose, Swensen said.

Personal Trainer

Aerobic exercise machines

Some things to consider when choosing the machine that's best for your cardiovascular and overall physical conditioning:

Stationary bicycle

Puts less strain on joints than running; most work only the lower body, but some have handlebars for working arms, shoulders

Cross-country skiing machine

Works most muscle groups as it simulates cross-country skiing; puts little strain on body and usually provides the best all-around workout

Treadmill

Some have adjustable inclines to simulate hills and make workouts more strenuous; prevent accidents by straddling machine before starting, slow it down gradually before getting off

Stair climber

Beware of potential strain on the knees; leaning on rails or front monitor will reduce effectiveness of the exercise

Rowing machine

More complete workout than running or cycling; tones muscles in the upper body; proper rowing technique puts little strain on the body, but consult a physician first if you have back problems

Focus

MUMBAI, India (AP)—The Mumbai slum of Rafiq Nagar has no clean water for its shacks made of ripped tarp and bamboo. No garbage pickup along the rocky, pocked earth that serves as a road. No power except from haphazard cables strung overhead illegally.

And not a single toilet or latrine for its 10,000 people.

Yet nearly every destitute family in the slum has a cell phone. Some have three.

When President Barack Obama visits India Nov. 6, he will find a country of startlingly uneven development and perplexing disparities, where more people have cell phones than access to a toilet, according to the United Nations.

It is a country buoyed by a vibrant business world of call centers and software developers, but hamstrung by a bloated, corrupt government that has failed to deliver the barest of services.

Its estimated growth rate of 8.5 percent a year is among the highest in the world, but its roads are crumbling.

It offers cheap, world-class medical care to Western tourists at private hospitals, yet has some of the worst child mortality and maternal death rates outside sub-Saharan Africa.

And while tens of millions have benefited from India's rise, many more remain mired in some of the worst poverty in the world.

Businessman Mukesh Ambani, the world's fourth-richest person, is just finishing off a new \$1 billion skyscraper-house in Mumbai with 27 floors and three helipads, touted as the most expensive home on earth. Yet farmers still live in shacks of mud and cow dung.

The cell phone frenzy bridges all worlds. Cell phones are sold amid the Calvin Klein and Clinique stores under the soaring atriums of India's new malls, and in the crowded markets of its working-class neighborhoods. Bare shops in the slums sell pre-paid cards for as little as 20 cents next to packets of chewing tobacco, while street hawkers peddle car chargers at traffic lights.

The spartan Beecham's in New Delhi's Connaught Place, one of the country's seemingly ubiquitous mobile phone dealers, is overrun with lunch-time customers of all classes looking for everything from a 35,000 rupee (\$790) Blackberry Torch to a basic 1,150 rupee (\$26) Nokia.

Store manager Sanjeev Malhotra adds to a decades-old—and still unfulfilled—Hindi campaign slogan promising food, clothing and shelter. "Roti, kapda, makaan" and "mobile," he riffs, laughing. "Basic needs."

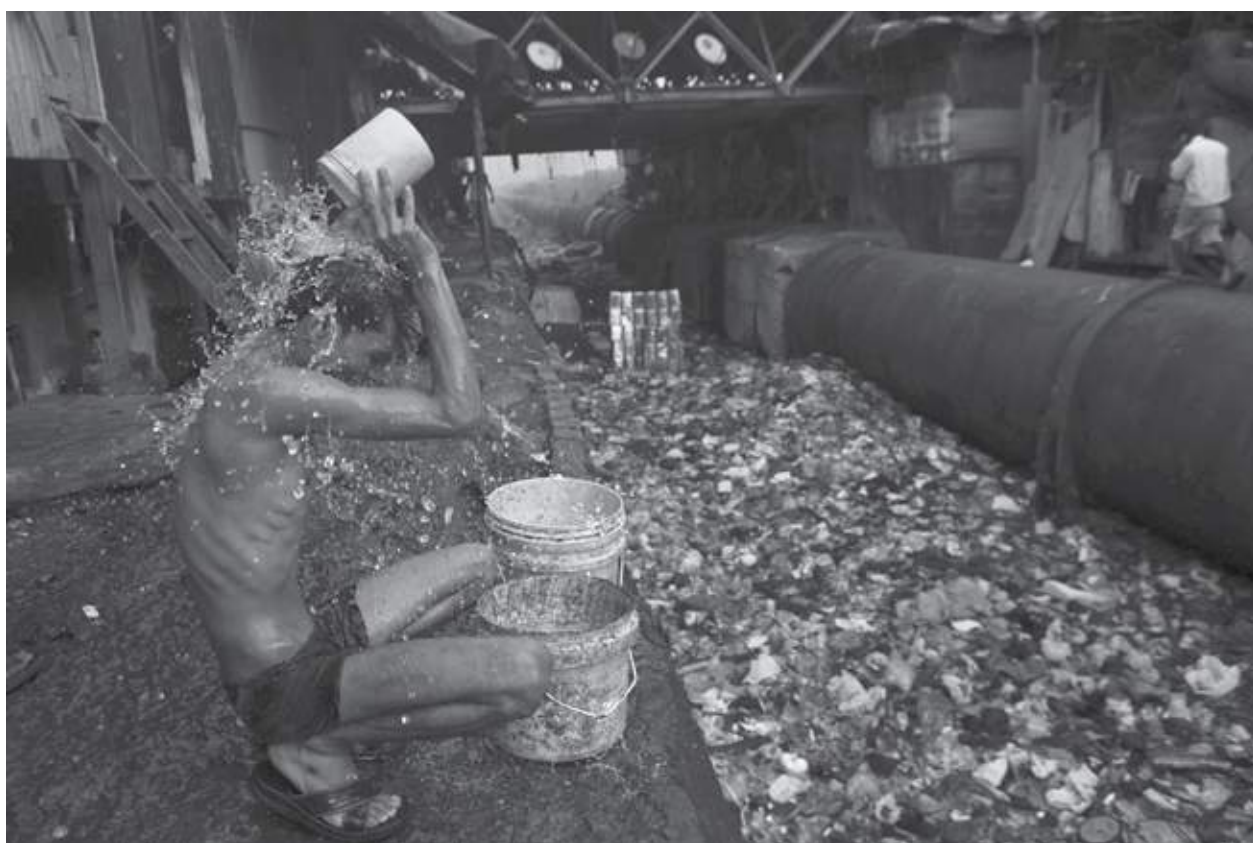
There were more than 670 million cell phone connections in India by the end of August, a number that has been growing by close to 20 million a month, according to government figures.

Yet U.N. figures show that only 366 million Indians have access to a private toilet or latrine, leaving 665 million to defecate in the open.

"At least tap water and sewage disposal—how can we talk about any development without these two fundamental things? How can we talk about development without health and education?" says Anita Patil-Deshmukhl, executive director of PUKAR, an organization that conducts research and outreach in the slums of Mumbai.

India's leaders say they are sympathetic to the problem.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, an economist credited with unleashing



Prakesh, a migrant worker takes bath near an open sewer at a slum in Mumbai, India

India: Land of many cell phones, fewer toilets

India's private sector by loosening government regulation, talks about growth that benefits the masses of poor people as well as a burgeoning middle class of about 300 million. He describes a roaring Maoist insurgency in the east—which feeds in large part on the poor's discontent—as the country's biggest internal security threat.

Sonia Gandhi, chief of the ruling Congress Party, has pushed laws guaranteeing a right to food and education, as well as a gargantuan rural jobs program for nearly 100 million people. But as many as 800 million Indians still live on less than \$2 a day, even as Mumbai's stock exchange sits near record highs.

Many fear the situation is unsustainable.

"Everybody understands the threat. Everybody recognizes that there is a gap, that this could be the thing that trips up this country," says Anand Mahindra, vice chairman and managing director of the Mahindra & Mahindra manufacturing company.

Private companies have tried to fill that gap, and Tata sells a 749 rupee (\$16) water purifier for the poor. Mafias provide

water and electricity to slum dwellers at a cost far higher than what wealthy Indians pay for basic services.

"For every little thing, we have to pay," says Nusrat Khan, a 35-year-old maid and single parent who raises her four children on less than 3,000 rupees (\$67) a month and blames the government for her lack of access to water and a toilet.

The government is spending \$350 million a year to build toilets in rural areas. Bindeshwar Pathak, the founder of the Sulabh Sanitation and Social Reform Movement, estimates the country needs about 120 million more latrines—likely the largest sanitation project in world history.

"Those in power, only they can change the situation," says Pathak, who claims to have helped build a million low-cost latrines across India over the past 40 years. "India can achieve this—if it desires."

In the slums of Mumbai, home to more than half the city's population of 14 million, the yearning for toilets is so great that enterprising residents have built makeshift outhouses on their own.

In Annabhau Sathe Nagar, a raised

latrine of corrugated tin empties into a river of sewage that children splash in and adults wade across. The slum in east Mumbai has about 50,000 residents and a single toilet building, with 10 pay toilets for men and eight for women—two of which are broken.

With the wait for those toilets up to an hour even at 5 a.m., and the two-rupee (4-cent) fee too expensive for many, most people either use a field or wait to use the toilets at work, says Santosh Thorat, 32, a community organizer. Nearly 60 percent have developed piles from regularly waiting to defecate, he says.

Conditions are far worse in Rafiq Nagar, a crowded, 15-year-old slum on the lip of a 110-acre garbage dump.

Most of the slum dwellers are ragpickers who sort through heaps of trash for scraps of plastic, glass, metal, even bones, anything they can sell to recyclers for cash. A pungent brew of ripe garbage and sewage blows through the trash-strewn streets, as choking smoke from wood fires rolls out the doorways of windowless huts. Children, half clothed in rags, play hopscotch next to a mysterious gray liquid that has gathered in stagnant

puddles weeks after the last rainfall.

Just beside the shacks, men and women defecate in separate areas behind rolling hills of green foliage that have sprung up over the garbage. Children run through those hills, flying kites.

Khatija Sheikh, 20, splurges to use a pay toilet in another neighborhood 10 minutes away, but is never sure what condition it will be in.

"Sometimes it's clean, sometimes it's dirty. It's totally dependent on the owner's mood," says Sheikh, whose two young children use the street. Her home is less than five feet from an elevated outhouse built by a neighbor that drops sewage next to her walls.

Since there are no water pipes or wells here, residents are forced to rely on the water mafia for water for cooking, washing clothes, bathing and drinking. The neighborhood is rife with skin infections, tuberculosis and other ailments.

A large blue barrel outside a home is filled with murky brown water, tiny white worms and an aluminum drinking cup. To fill up two jerry cans costs between 40 (\$.90) and 50 (\$1.10) rupees a day, about one-third of the average family's earnings here.

"If the government would give us water, we would pay that money to the government," said Suresh Pache, 41, a motorized rickshaw driver.

Instead, it has issued demolition notices throughout the slum, which sits illegally on government land. Pache, whose home was razed 10 times, jokes that the destruction is the only government service he can count on.

Yet the world of technology has embraced the slum dwellers with its cheap cell phones and cut-rate calling plans that charge a sliver of a penny a minute. Pache bought his first phone for 1,400 rupees (\$31) four months ago. Since then, his wife, a ragpicker, found two other broken models as she scoured the garbage dump, and he paid to have them repaired.

He speaks with fluency about the different plans offered by Tata, Reliance and Idea that cost him a total of 300 rupees (\$6.70) a month. Now, when his rickshaw breaks down, he can alert his wife with a call. She uses her phone to tell the recyclers where she is in the dump so they can drive out to her, saving her the time and effort of dragging her bag of scraps to them.

Mohan Singh, a 58-year-old bicycle repairman, says his son uses their 2,000 rupee (\$45) Orpat phone to play music and talk to relatives. Thorat, the community organizer, shows photographs of his neighborhood and videos of a pre-school he started on his Nokia cameraphone, while his second phone rings in his pocket. Sushila Paten, who teaches at the pre-school, organizes a phone chain with her Samsung to instantly mobilize hundreds of people in the streets when violent thugs show up demanding "rent" from the squatters.

In fact, the spread of cell phones may end up bringing toilets.

R. Gopalakrishnan, executive director of Tata Sons, one of India's most revered companies, says the rising aspirations of the poor, buttressed by their growing access to communications and information, will put tremendous pressure on the government to start delivering.

People already are starting to challenge local officials who for generations answered to no one, he says.

"I think there are very, very dramatic changes happening," he says.



This Oct. 19, 2010 photo shows tall buildings behind makeshift houses in the Rafiq Nagar slum in Mumbai, India.

Life & Style

Oscar-nominated actress Jill Clayburgh dead at 66

By **DERRIK J. LANG**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Jill Clayburgh, the sophisticated Hollywood and Broadway actress known for portrayals of empowered women in a career spanning five decades, highlighted by her Oscar-nominated role of a divorcee exploring life after marriage in the 1978 film "An Unmarried Woman," has died. She was 66.

Her husband, Tony Award-winning playwright David Rabe, said Clayburgh died Friday surrounded by her family at her home in Lakeville, Conn., after a 21-year battle with chronic lymphocytic leukemia. He said she dealt with the disease courageously, quietly and privately, "and made it into an opportunity for her children to grow and be human."

Clayburgh, alongside such peers as Anne Bancroft, Shirley MacLaine and Jane Fonda, helped to usher in a new era for actresses in Hollywood by playing women who were confident and capable yet not completely flawless. Her dramatic turn as a divorcee exploring her sexuality after 16 years of marriage in "An Unmarried Woman" earned Clay-

burgh her first Oscar nod.

"There was practically nothing for women to do on the screen in the 1950s and 1960s," Clayburgh said in an interview with The Associated Press while promoting "An Unmarried Woman" in 1978. "Sure, Marilyn Monroe was great, but she had to play a one-sided character, a vulnerable sex object. It was a real fantasy."

The next year, Clayburgh was again nominated for an Academy Award for "Starting Over," a comedy about a divorced man, played by Burt Reynolds, who falls in love but can't get over his ex-wife. For the next 30 years, Clayburgh steadily appeared in films and on stage and television, often effortlessly moving between comedic and dramatic roles.

Besides appearing in such movies as "I'm Dancing As Fast As I Can," "Silver Streak" and "Running With Scissors," Clayburgh's Broadway credits included Noel Coward's "Design for Living," the original production of Tom Stoppard's "Jumpers," and the Tony Award-winning musicals "Pippin" and "The Rothschilds."

Clayburgh's work also stretched across TV. She had a



AP
In this May 15, 2007 file photo, Jill Clayburgh, star of "Dirty Sexy Money" poses for photographers on the red carpet during the arrivals of ABC's 2007-2008 preview in New York.

recurring role on Fox's "Ally McBeal" as McBeal's mother and most recently played the matriarch of the spoiled Darling family on ABC's "Dirty Sexy Money." She earned two Emmy nods: for best actress in 1975 for portraying a tell-it-like-it-is prostitute in the ABC TV film "Hustling" and for her guest turn in 2005 as a vengeful plastic surgery patient on FX's "Nip/Tuck."

Clayburgh came from a privileged New York family. Her father was vice president of two large companies, and her mother was a secretary for Broadway producer David Merrick. Her grandmother, Alma Clayburgh, was an opera singer and New York socialite.

Growing up in a such a rich cultural mix, she could easily have been overwhelmed. Instead, as she said in interviews, she asserted herself with willful and destructive behavior—so much so that her parents took her to a psychiatrist when she was 9.

She escaped into a fantasy world of her own devising. She was entranced by seeing Jean Arthur play "Peter Pan" on Broadway, and she and a school chum concocted their own dramatics every day at home. She became serious-minded at Sarah Lawrence College, concentrating on religion, philosophy and literature.

Clayburgh also took drama classes at Sarah Lawrence. She and her friend Robert De Niro acted in a film, "The Wedding Party," directed by a Sarah Lawrence graduate, Bri-

an DePalma. After graduating with a bachelor of arts degree, she began performing in repertory and in Broadway musicals such as "The Rothschilds" and "Pippin."

Alongside Richard Thomas, she headed the 2005 Broadway cast of "A Naked Girl on the Appian Way," Richard Greenberg's comedy about one family's unusual domestic tribulations.

Director Doug Hughes, who directed her in a production of Arthur Miller's "All My Sons" at the Westport Country Playhouse in 2003, called her for "Naked Girl."

"That she has the time to do a run of a play is just an extraordinary boon because I've had the pleasure of seeing her play a bona fide tragic American role beautifully, and I have had the pleasure of directing her in a very, very smart light comedy and be utterly brilliant in that," he said in 2005.

During an interview that year, Clayburgh explained the unglamorous side of acting.

"One of the funny things about actors is that people look at their careers in retrospect, as if they have a plan," she said.

"Mostly, you just get a call. You're just sitting there going, 'Oh, my God. I'm never going to work again. Oh, God. I'm too old. Maybe I should go and work for Howard Dean.' And then it changes."

Clayburgh will next be seen playing the mother of Jake Gyllenhaal's character in the upcoming film "Love and Other Drugs."

Chinese artist Ai Weiwei under house arrest

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese avant-garde artist Ai Weiwei said Saturday authorities would keep him under house arrest for at least another 24 hours to prevent him from attending a party commemorating the forced demolition of his newly built studio in Shanghai.

Ai, who has become known as much for his social activism as his art in recent years, was planning to fly to the Chinese financial hub for Sunday's celebration, but people he suspects were police told him Friday that he would not be permitted to leave his Beijing home.

"I'm under house arrest to prevent me from going to Shanghai. You can never really argue with this government," Ai, 53, said.

"They've told me I would be held until midnight Sunday and I would be prevented from leaving before then," he said.

Ai said the men refused to identify themselves and it wasn't clear who gave the order to detain him. On Saturday afternoon, three plainclothes officers watched outside Ai's home in an artists' colony on the eastern edge of the city, but did not prevent an Associated Press Television reporter from entering to interview him.

Ai, who is also an architectural designer, said he had been invited by the head of Shanghai's suburban Jiading district to



AP
Chinese avant-garde artist Ai Weiwei stands at the doorway to his home where he is under house arrest in Beijing Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010.

build a studio on a plot of farmland containing a derelict warehouse. He said he was initially reluctant, but eventually agreed and spent two years designing and building the studio, only to receive notice in July that the building was an illegal structure and would be knocked down.

Other artists invited to build on the site were unaffected by the order and Ai said he was later told that he had been singled out for political reasons.

He speculated the order was payback from Shanghai officials for his frequent blogging about the revenge killing of six

city police officers by a man who had allegedly been tortured and the case of Feng Zhenghu, a Shanghai activist who camped out at Tokyo's international airport for nearly 90 days after Chinese officials barred him from returning home.

"They're very contradictory," Ai said, referring to Jiading district officials. "They asked that I donate the building to the government for a museum, but how could I do it if it's an illegal structure?"

"This is an organized crime style of doing things," he said.

The son of one of China's

most famous modern poets, Ai was courted by the communist government as a cultural ambassador before his advocacy on behalf of social activists apparently made him a target of internal security.

Known for distinctive scraggly beard and stocky frame, Ai was a consultant for the futuristic Bird's Nest stadium at the Beijing Olympics before souring on the event. He was later beaten and detained while attempting to attend the trial of an advocate for victims of the devastating 2008 earthquake in the southwestern city of Chengdu.


Ai has exhibited and contributed to projects throughout Europe and the United States, and an installation of his involving 100 million porcelain sunflower seeds is currently on display at the Tate Modern gallery's famed Turbine Hall in London.

In typical fashion, Ai had planned to commemorate the demolition of his studio with a party catered with river crabs—a Chinese homophone for the government's catch phrase of "harmonious." Critics sarcastically use the term to describe policies such as censorship and the demolition of working class homes to make way for flashy new developments.

Ai said about 2,000 people had signed up to attend, including fellow artists, musicians, and members of the media.

FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In loving memory of



Mariano L. Nekaifes

We, the family, humbly invite all of our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the passing of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass will be offered every morning beginning on Friday, November 5, 2010 at 6:00 a.m. to November 13, 2010 at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, in Chalan Kanoa.

Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank You

Wife and Family

Spider-Man musical stuck in a web of troubles

NEW YORK (AP)—The bugs apparently still need to be worked out on Broadway's version of Spider-Man.

Producers of "Spider-Man Turn Off the Dark" have been forced to delay by three weeks the official opening of the costly and complicated show, and it will only open its doors for previews after the busy Thanksgiving holiday.

"Shows like ours, that embrace the challenge of opening on Broadway without an out-of-town tryout, often need to adjust their schedules along the way," lead producer Michael Cohl said in a statement released Friday, citing an "unprecedented level of technical artistry."

Originally scheduled to begin previews on Nov. 14 with an opening four days before Christmas, the show will now begin previews on Nov. 28 and finally open on Jan. 11, a less-than-ideal timetable for luring the crowds that descend on Broadway over the holidays.

"That's usually a sign that there's trouble in River City," says Robert Westenberg, a Tony Award-nominated actor whose Broadway credits include "Les Miserables," "Zorba" and the original 1987 run of "Into the Woods," which he recalls was delayed for several weeks while Stephen Sondheim tinkered with the musical before it finally opened. When it did, it ran for two years.

Westenberg, who now teaches theater at Drury University in Springfield, Mo., says many reasons can delay a show's opening, including weak stories or songs, unfinished costumes, not-ready-for-prime-time production values and unready stars.

"They have to do this cost-benefit analysis in terms of how many weeks is it going to take to hammer it into the kind of shape where it's going to be critic-proof, and how



In this Oct. 5, 2010 file photo, a building-sized banner covers the front of the Foxwoods Theater on 42nd street in New York, where preparations are underway for the opening of Spider-Man, the most expensive show in Broadway history.

many weeks can they afford to do that without anybody coming in to put money in the coffers," he says. "It's a tough call."

The reported \$60 million musical is, by any measure, a huge undertaking. It will have a 41-member cast, 18 orchestra members and aerial stunts designed by a longtime Cirque du Soleil alum that will shoot actors up to 40 mph through the air and over the audience. Its promotional material promises "a thrilling experience in ways never-before-dreamed-possible in live theater."

The delay is just the latest blow for a musical that has been in the works for more than six years. Producers

have come and gone, and so have cast members: Evan Rachel Wood and Alan Cumming were once cast as Mary-Jane and the Green Goblin. At one point, the musical was supposed to open in February 2010.

Besides timing troubles, two on-set accidents have injured actors, including one who had both his wrists broken when he practiced an aerial stunt. And inspectors from the New York State Department of Labor, which must approve all stunts that go over an audience, were unable to complete a recent safety review; producers said they were unprepared to show all the stunts in one day.

"I'm not surprised that 'Spider-Man'

is delayed," said a longtime theater producer not connected to the comic book musical, who asked that his name not be used so he would not damage his relations in the Broadway community.

NY jury: Fan guilty of stalking 'Law & Order' star

NEW YORK (AP)—A fan of "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" was convicted Friday of stalking Kathryn Erbe, who plays the show's star detective, by posting threatening comments and photos on the Internet. Jurors—who heard testimony from Erbe and defendant Charles Nagel in the four-day trial in federal court in Brooklyn—deliberated less than a day before reaching a split verdict. They acquitted the Philadelphia resident on a separate stalking charge based on his attempts to meet her on location.

Nagel, 36, had described himself as an avid but mild-mannered autograph seeker and fan of "Criminal Intent." The USA network series featured Erbe as Detective Alexandra Eames for nine seasons.

When the forewoman announced the not-guilty portion of the verdict, Nagel responded with a joyful whimper. His demeanor quickly turned sullen when he learned of the conviction.

The defense had claimed that Nagel's daughter had posted the rude photos—one of Erbe's teenage daughter with an "I'm ugly" dialogue bubble—as a prank without his knowledge.

"I think (the jurors) had a hard time with those photos," defense attorney Robert Datner said afterward. Still, he added, the acquittal also showed they



In this Sept. 30, 2010 photo, actress Kathryn Erbe attends the premiere of "Life As We Know It" at The Ziegfeld Theatre in New York.

believed some of his client's behavior was "harmless and innocent."

Prosecutors had no immediate comment. There was no immediate response to a message left with Erbe's manager.

The government had claimed Nagel began harassing Erbe in 2008 by showing up at a Manhattan filming location with his wife and two daughters and trying to hug Erbe. She told the jury that after she fended him off,

he kept staring at her as she completed her scene.

"I got a very bad feeling from him," said the 44-year-old actress.

Nagel, an aspiring songwriter who uses the name "Chaz Rose," later complained on a social network "that the victim had not responded to a song and letter he had written her, that this was causing him to become angry and that he knew where the program was filming," a criminal complaint says.

Nagel again went to a filming location in 2009 and approached Erbe, the complaint says. When she recognized him, she had a security guard tell him to leave.

In sometimes tearful testimony, Erbe said that Nagel persisted, writing her romantic letters—"I love you so much it hurts"—that left her even more shaken.

The actress recalled first seeing the photos and thinking "that I'm not going to let this go on anymore—that this is my daughter who is totally innocent and relatively defenseless."

Nagel described himself as being "shy" and "star-struck" in his encounters with the actress.

"She was sort of intimidating ... because she was in the character of Alexandra Eames and that was pretty cool," he said.

Bush to speak with Lauer, Winfrey, Leno, others



This photo taken Oct. 28, 2010 and provided by Harpo Productions Inc., shows talk-show host Oprah Winfrey interviewing former President George W. Bush during taping of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" at Harpo Studios in Chicago.

NEW YORK (AP)—The world will soon be hearing a lot from former President George W. Bush.

After relative silence since leaving office in 2009, Bush will be on the air throughout next week and beyond in promotion of his memoir, "Decision Points," which comes out Tuesday. Along with previously announced TV appearances with Matt Lauer and with Oprah Winfrey, Bush will speak with Jay Leno on the "Tonight" show, have radio interviews on the programs of conservative commentators Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity and make several TV appearances on the Fox News Channel, the hosts including Hannity, Bill O'Reilly and Greta Van Susteran.

The schedule was announced Saturday by spokesman David Drake of Crown Publishers, an imprint of Random House, Inc.

Bush will also meet with Candy Crowley on CNN and appear on

"They are building a musical that costs three times as much as the biggest musical we've seen previously."

Until now, "Shrek the Musical," which opened in 2008, is believed to be Broadway's costliest show with a price tag reported to have been \$25 million and it failed to make its investors money. By comparison, "The Phantom of the Opera" cost about \$12 million in 1988—around \$22 million in today's dollars—and "Wicked" cost \$14 million to mount in 2003 and both are still chugging along on Broadway and are two of the most successful shows ever.

The Spider-Man musical will star relative unknowns—Reeve Carney as Peter Parker, Jennifer Damiano as Mary Jane Watson and Patrick Page as the Green Goblin—in the story by Glen Berger and Julie Taymor, who is also directing. The music is by U2's Bono and The Edge, and features moody guitar-heavy arena rock, including the song "Boy Falls From the Sky," which U2 has been playing on tour.

During a set visit in early October, Taymor, who won a Tony Award for directing "The Lion King," was firmly in charge and the technical run-through seemed relaxed. Cohl said things were on track, both financially and in terms of schedule. He would not comment to The Associated Press on Friday.

"CBS Sunday Morning" with Jim Axelrod. Besides his taped interview with Lauer airing on NBC on Monday night, Bush will speak live with Lauer on the "Today" show on Wednesday morning. Among his print interviews: a cover story for the magazine of AARP, which represents millions of people 50 and older.

The 64-year-old former president will not be out there alone. His parents, former President George H.W. Bush and former first lady Barbara Bush, also will appear on Winfrey's show. His wife, former first lady Laura Bush, will join him on "CBS This Morning." Jeb Bush, the former Florida governor, will be with his brother on CNN.

Bush's book tour was organized by Drake, the former president's literary representative, Washington attorney Robert Barnett; former White House press secretary Dana Perino; and Bush spokesman David Sherzer.

Conan O'Brien ready to break in cozy new studio

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—Conan O'Brien is ready to reach out and touch the audience in his cozy new studio—if the lawyers don't stop him.

O'Brien says he wanted an intimate atmosphere for his late-night TBS show, which launches 11 p.m. EST Monday. At NBC's "Tonight Show," he was given a large studio that held more than 300 people. For "Conan," O'Brien is holding court in a smaller, 250-seat house and will stand about a dozen feet away from the audience during his opening monologue.

"I really want to be able to walk over and touch people, which probably I'm going to get in trouble for. I'm finding out through my lawyers that not everybody likes that," O'Brien joked.

It was his post-"Tonight" comedy and music tour that pointed him toward a smaller set, one that evokes the atmosphere of theater spaces in which he played nationally, O'Brien said. The audience seats are on a sharper rake, or slant, than usual to add to the studio's theater ambiance.

"I really like the feeling of a theater and I liked the sense that the show had a 'this is happening right now feel,'" O'Brien said. "Sometimes in television you can get sepa-



In this Aug. 29, 2010 file photo, Conan O'Brien and wife Liza Powell arrive for the 62nd Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles.

rated from the audience, there can be a distance, kind of a 'you all just sit back and be quiet while I do my thing.'"

Otherwise, the Warner Bros. studio is decorated talk-show traditional, with a desk for O'Brien and sofa for his guests. The set is clean and simple, with the dominant feature a nighttime seascape depicting the California coast under the glow of a full moon.

In a flip-flop from "Tonight," the "Conan" show house band will be to O'Brien's right, with guest musicians performing to his left.

The studio, with adjoining dressing rooms for O'Brien, sidekick Andy Richter and the show's guests, was built in three months, Drew Shane, a spokesman for the show, said. That's in contrast to the lengthy and costly construction for O'Brien's "Tonight" studio that he used for a mere seven months.

He left the show rather than move his time slot back a half hour to allow Jay Leno to return to late-night after Leno's prime-time comedy venture flopped.

Stage 15 has a long history, starting with "Golddiggers of 1935." It's also where the 1976 "A Star Is Born" with Barbra Streisand was shot, as well as "All the President's Men" and "Ocean's Eleven."

For "Conan," the Monday debut guests will be Seth Rogen, Lea Michele and Jack White.

Chef Bobby Flay scores big win at Breeders' Cup

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Bobby Flay cooked up a big win in the Breeders' Cup.

The celebrity chef jumped up and down and yelled Friday as More Than Real won the \$1 million Juvenile Fillies Turf race by 2 lengths at Churchill Downs.

The chestnut filly paid \$29.20 to win.

"This is obviously the biggest win I've ever had in horse racing by a magnitude of a thousand," Flay said. "It was

just an amazing feeling. I don't remember the last sixteenth of a mile because I couldn't see. Everybody was jumping all over each other."

Also celebrating was Flay's actress-wife, Stephanie March, best known for her role on "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit."

"For Bobby, it was the ultimate throwdown," she said. "He's on cloud nine."

The Flays had to sweat out an inquiry filed by another jockey after the race.

"Talk about a killjoy," said the 45-year-old chef, who hosts "Throwdown! With Bobby Flay" on the Food Network and owns several restaurants.

After a few minutes, the stew-

ards ruled there were no infractions and Flays went back to celebrating.

Flay said he bought his first horse, named Sophie's Salad, about six years ago.



Owner Bobby Flay, left and trainer Todd Pletcher laugh as they talk about their horse More Than Real winning the Marathon race at the Breeder's Cup horse races at Churchill Downs Friday, Nov. 5, 2010, in Louisville, Ky.

Lil Wayne shows up at NBA game after NY release

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Lil Wayne turned up courtside in red baseball cap and long dreadlocks to watch the unbeaten New Orleans Hornets edge the Miami Heat 96-93 Friday night, a day after his release from a New York City jail.

Lil Wayne, whose real name is Dwayne Carter Jr., was freed Thursday after serving eight months in a gun case. Asked how it felt to be back, Wayne told the Times-Picayune: "Like I never left."

Before his incarceration, the rapper recorded the recently released "I Am Not a Human Being," a top debut on Billboard album charts.

The newspaper said the rapper flew earlier Friday to Yuma County, Ariz., to check in for a



Entertainer Lil Wayne smiles before the start of the second half of an NBA basketball game between New Orleans Hornets and the Miami Heat in New Orleans, Friday, Nov. 5, 2010.

three-year stint of unsupervised probation for a drug conviction. Authorities said that case will be transferred to Florida, where the New Orleans native now lives.

Woman with tattoo asks if she should cover up or come clean

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I have a tattoo on my forearm. It's my deceased son's name, with angel's wings and a halo. Because of where it's placed on my arm, I wear long sleeves or three-quarter sleeves to work. If I feel it might "peek out," I wear an Ace bandage over it.

I am a bank branch manager and I'm sometimes asked, "What happened to your arm?" when the bandage can be seen. I feel telling the person I have a tattoo defeats the whole purpose of keeping it covered, and I don't want to lie. What is the proper response?

TATTOOED FEMALE PROFESSIONAL IN INDIANA

DEAR PROFESSIONAL: Does having a visible tattoo violate the dress code at your bank? So many people have body art that it's no longer considered shocking. If no rule prevents it, I see no reason to hide it—and if you're questioned about its significance, tell the truth. If there is a rule that discourages it and you are asked about the Ace bandage, just smile and say, "Thank you for your concern, but it's nothing serious."

■■■

DEAR ABBY: For the past few years, my "Aunt Maude" has given birthday, holiday and graduation gifts she has picked up at yard sales. These "gifts" are neither usable nor are they age-appropriate.

My sister "Hallie" is being married soon. We would like Aunt Maude to attend without feeling she needs to buy a used gift. Money is not an issue for her, but she thinks she is buying a personalized gift when, in fact, it's something that will be discarded. Our family would rather she attend with no gift than a yard sale item. What's the best way to handle this?

BLUSHING BRIDESMAID

DEAR BLUSHING BRIDESMAID: The subject of wedding gifts can be a sensitive one. To imply that someone's gift is unacceptable would be extremely rude. However, a way to approach this might be for Maude's sibling to suggest to her that Hallie has already received more "things" than she can use, and that the most meaningful gift Maude could give her niece would be her presence at the celebration.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend says all his friends think I am "stuck up." He told me (loudly) that I come across as rude because I'm not outgoing enough. More than once, people have asked him what my deal is.

I am quiet and reserved when I'm around new people, but once I'm comfortable, I do open up. I know I can sometimes come across as being unfriendly, but the way he presented it to me left me crushed. Shyness can be misperceived, and I try to be nice to everyone. I'm loyal to a fault and the first to offer help to friends, family and especially my boyfriend.

While he had a valid point in what he said, I am now questioning the effect his approach has had on our relationship. Am I justified in feeling so hurt, or should I just suck it up?

PICKED APART IN UTAH

DEAR PICKED APART: Sometimes it's not what someone says, but the way it is said that is hurtful. Because your boyfriend's tone was loud and angry, it's understandable that you felt attacked. If it happened in public rather than in private, he was tactless. But if you're going to have a relationship with him, his friends will have to be a part of it. And rather than scolding you, he should have explained to them that you need time to get to know them.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds)



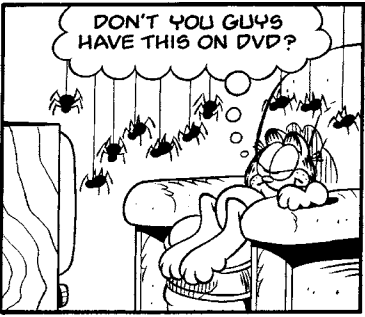
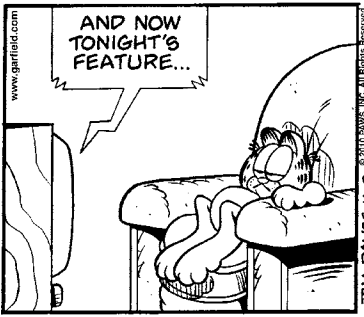
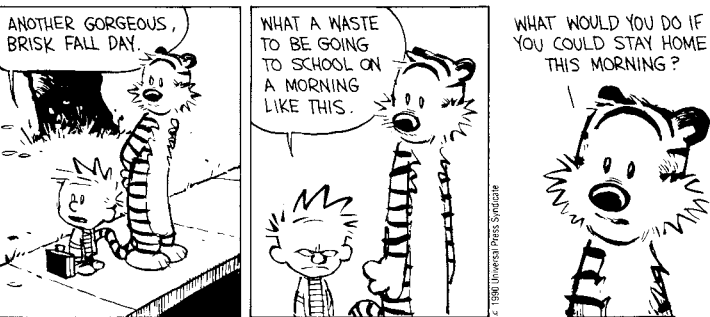
Actor Michael Pitt arrives on the red carpet to present the movie "Boardwalk Empire" during the Rome Film Festival at Rome's Auditorium, Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

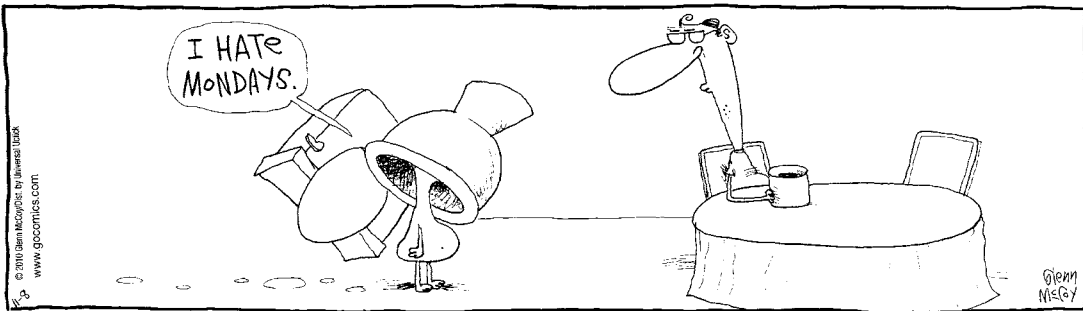
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Explain that" 4 Recede 7 PC picture 11 Very excited 13 Book-spine abbr. 14 Undressed 15 — gin fizz 16 Away from WSW 17 Carey or Barrymore 18 Serf 20 Abominable Snowman 22 Steal from 24 Crown 28 Los Angeles team 32 Attack from concealment 33 Jai — 34 Intention 36 Operatic solo 37 Glacial ridge

DOWN

39 Topic 41 Site of rapid development 43 Sticky stuff 44 Peruse 46 Bit of tomfoolery 50 Head light? 53 Old soldier 55 Franc replacement 56 Acknowledge 57 37-Across material 58 Winter forecast 59 Stitched 60 Female deer

61 Type measures

21 — the season ...

23 Lingerie item

25 Catastrophic

26 Grand story

27 Vegan's no-no

28 Morse code symbol

29 Margarine

30 Pub missile

31 Bro's relative

35 Beer vessel

38 Third letter

40 Squeezing snake

42 Goliath's vanquisher

45 Retro art style

47 Melody

48 Press

49 Bulls' mates

50 Owns

51 Rd.

52 Depressed

54 Golfer's prop

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 11-8

C	R	A	S	H		F	U	M	E	D	
D	H	A	R	M	A	A	T	O	M	I	C
R	A	P	P	E	R	C	A	P	P	E	R
E	S	T	W	R	O	T	H	I	T	O	
A	T	O	P	Y	O	U	A	R	E	S	
R	E	R	A	N		H	A	N	G	E	R
	P	I	C		L	E	E				
A	M	I	A	B	L	E		E	N	D	U
M	A	N	S		E	E	N		T	A	P
A	S	S		G	A	L	A	S		M	P
Z	A	P	P	E	R		D	A	P	P	E
E	L	A	I	N	E		I	N	H	E	R
A	N	G	E	R		R	E	I	N	S	

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Jack Osbourne, 25; Parker Posey, 42; Courtney Thorne-Smith, 43; Bonnie Raitt, 61

Happy Birthday: This isn't the year to go against the grain. There is much to gain by taking the path of least resistance. Be flexible and adaptable and you will see marked improvements in your life. The future looks bright, so give your all without complaining or holding a grudge. Forward thinking will bring good results. Your numbers are 8, 12, 15, 23, 29, 37, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You've gone up against all odds and have surpassed some very difficult tests. Now you are ready to take on anything and everything. You can make significant and triumphant improvements. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems with deals, contracts and legal matters must be dealt with practically. Do not let your emotions cause you to make a mistake. Making an impulsive move may tempt you but patience and observing responses of the people around you will be your best moves. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will be taken advantage of if you are too generous with your time. It's OK to offer a little help but draw the line if you feel used and abused. Focus on honing your skills or looking for a better position that will lead to greater advancement. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Improve your work or change your job to suit your needs. This is not the time for getting involved in something that will limit your working on your own projects or goals. Mixing work with pleasure may backfire. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your ability to socialize and get along as a team player will enhance your chance to get ahead personally. Love is in the stars and you can win points by doing little extras for someone you care about. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Say what's on your mind but don't let an emotional situation get out of hand. Arguments are likely to erupt if you don't stick to what you know and what you want. Getting involved in someone else's business will cost you. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let anyone bully you. Follow through and make the most of the situation without getting upset or discouraged. Your ability to carry on with or without help will be a good way to show everyone how capable you are at getting things done. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let anyone stand in your way. You have good ideas and you don't need anyone taking over or trying to ruin your plans. Handle matters in your own way. An old lover may try to come back into your life. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll be passionate about everything you do. Love is in the stars and a commitment or promise can be made that will change your life forever. If you are looking for change, now is the time to make it happen. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In the end, you will discover that it's best to keep things cordial if you want to get your way. Unexpected changes to your current position will develop, so be ready to face the challenge and prove you can handle whatever comes your way. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put all your time and effort into your job and strive for perfection and advancement. An innovative idea can turn into a prosperous endeavor. You'll be surprised at how easy it is to get others on board. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't jeopardize your position by saying something you'll regret. You will do far better if you don't make a fuss or ask for favors. A good idea can go sour if you aren't willing to compromise. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, outspoken, adaptable and you care about the less fortunate. You are imaginative, intense and innovative. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

2	1			5				8
	4						6	5
			8	4	6			
		9	2	7	5			
7		2		1		3		6
		4	6		3	8		
			7	2	8			
9	2						8	
6				3			4	1

Difficulty Level ★ 11/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

4	7	8	5	1	9	6	3	2
2	9	3	4	7	6	1	5	8
5	6	1	2	8	3	4	7	9
8	4	9	6	3	5	7	2	1
3	2	5	1	4	7	9	8	6
7	1	6	8	9	2	3	4	5
6	8	4	3	5	1	2	9	7
1	5	7	9	2	4	8	6	3
9	3	2	7	6	8	5	1	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 11/08

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

'GLEE' (TV SERIES) Solution: 9 letters

M H T Y H R O C K N O S D U H
O U S M E S M A R B A R T I E
R M C C S L D C A S T H G S N
R M H H C S I A D H C H E O I
I E U A O L L R N A S L S N V
S L E L R R A E O C G Y C G E
O O S E E W E C H N E N A S L
N S T W A C O O I C C C P M O
A C E S Y M O S G S A H I C T
N O E N E L A V T R U R S K E
N M N D U L I R E Y A M M I R
E P Y H O T O M D R L P I N O
R O S T S I T R A T S E H L L
B S E C N A M R O F R E P E I
R E Y N A T T I R B E R R Y D

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Last Saturday's Answer: Mumbai
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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0338
-v-	
RAMON P. AGULTO and DALIA R. AGULTO, Defendants.	FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on June 16, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 001 G 32, situated in Kagman, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 G 02, the original of which was recorded March 20, 1986, as Document No. 86-0513, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, and also recorded on February 16, 1989, as Document No. 89-511, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1054
-v-	
JUAN R. SABLAN and ANGELINE F. SABLAN, Defendants.	FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Real property situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, designated as Lot E.A. 839 NEW-6-3, containing an area of 1,329 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

Middle-aged European man with US passport and moderate income (\$800.00) looking for slim attractive wife. Send letters to PMB 2703 P.O. Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950.

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-382
-v-	
MARIANO S. NAPUTI, Defendant.	FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as Document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 06-0054
-v-	
DANIEL JOSEPH M. CABRERA and MAGDALENA S. CABRERA, Defendants.	FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 19, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: (a) Lot No. 005 1 180, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 1 02, the original of which was recorded March 11, 1983, as Document No. 16707, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan; and (b) Tract No. 225840-1-1, located in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on DLS Check No. 2119/92, deeded to Daniel Muna Cabrera on August 24, 1998, and recorded as File No. 99-2096 on September 3, 1999.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 15th day of October, 2010.

/s/ Michael A. White, Auctioneer

WANTED

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- **Baker**
- **Pastry**

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• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Zenyatta falls short in quest for perfection

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Put the blame on Blame for breaking Zenyatta's magnificent winning streak—and a lot of hearts, too.

Jockey Mike Smith wept. Owners Jerry and Ann Moss stood in stunned silence. Trainer John Shirreffs trudged slowly back to the barn, hands in his pockets.

Nineteen times the people behind Zenyatta led horse racing's superstar to the track. Nineteen times they'd celebrated with her in the winner's circle.

Not this time.

Blame beat Zenyatta by a head in a thrilling finish at the Breeders' Cup Classic on Saturday night, handing the 6-year-old mare her first defeat.

Zenyatta threaded her way through traffic from last place while the crowd of 72,739 urged her on as she unleashed a monstrous closing kick under the lights at Churchill Downs.

It was so close, a matter of inches, the result had to be resolved by a photo—a picture that saddened not only Zenyatta's owners and trainer but millions of fans around the world.

It was so close, Ann Moss said she was hoping her horse had "stuck her tongue out" at the finish.

Smith blamed himself for the loss. He walked off the track with his head down, dirt stuck to his face.

"It was my fault," he said, sobbing. "She should've won."

Blame went to the front in mid-stretch, then fought off another gutty run by the massive mare, who lagged well behind 11 rivals—all boys—in her customary style.

Sent off at 5-1 odds, Blame ran 1 1/4 miles in 2:02.28 and paid \$12.40, \$4.40 and \$3.80. Zenyatta returned \$3.60 and \$2.80. Fly Down was another 3 1/2 lengths back in third and paid \$8.60 to show. Preakness winner Lookin At Lucky finished fourth.

But the star, even in defeat, was Zenyatta, the sentimental even-money favorite.

She played to the crowd at every chance on her way to the starting gate. She high-stepped her way to the paddock, playfully pawing the ground as they roared. Ann Moss held her finger to her lips as a signal for the fans to quiet down.

"People who didn't know anything about horse racing became fans because of her," Blame's jockey Garrett Gomez said.

Zenyatta proved she could beat the boys last year when she rallied from behind to win the \$5 million Classic at Santa Anita. It was one of her 17 wins on synthetic surfaces in her home state of California.

This time, though, she was facing the deepest, most talented field of her career on a surface where she had limited experience. Still, trainer Shirreffs had said she preferred it to synthetic tracks.

This was the third time she ran on dirt and in her two previous races, she beat other girls at Oaklawn Park in Arkansas.

But Blame had home-court advantage. He won twice before on dirt at Churchill, where Zenyatta had never raced.

"She ran an excellent race and just came up a little short," Shirreffs said. "She ran her heart out."

But Zenyatta's late-running style proved her undoing this time. She got away slow from the starting gate and spotted early leader First Dude 15 lengths over the opening half-mile.



Garrett Gomez, right, rides Blame to victory during the Classic race at the Breeder's Cup horse races at Churchill Downs Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010, in Louisville, Ky. Mike Smith riding Zenyatta finished second

At the back of the pack, Smith was coaxing Zenyatta to start making up ground. But it was a struggle. She was getting hit in the face with clods of dirt, something that doesn't happen on a synthetic track.

"She wasn't used to it," he said. "Al-

though she's run on dirt twice, they were really short fields and really never got nothing in her face before."

Smith furiously tore through six pairs of goggles to keep a clear view of things.

"I just wish I would have been in

the race a little earlier because I think the outcome would have certainly been different," the Hall of Fame jockey said.

Few would disagree.

When Zenyatta finally kicked into gear, Smith had plenty of horse left. She

started her rally turning for home, dropping down to the inside rail with three furlongs to go and Blame on her outside.

Smith then angled her to the outside for clear running room, and the crowd exploded.

This was the famous come-from-behind run they had braved a cold November evening to see.

Zenyatta charged through the lane, gaining on Blame with every stride of her powerful legs. Gomez, aboard Blame, knew only Zenyatta could deny him the win.

"I was asking him as much as I could without asking him for everything," he said. "I was trying to save just enough so if she did get to me I had something and some kind of response."

It was just enough.

The loss might have cost Zenyatta a shot at Horse of the Year honors. She lost to Rachel Alexandra last year. This year's vote, announced in January, will come down to Blame vs. Zenyatta.

"I thought the battle for Horse of the Year was fought about a half-hour ago, and Blame won it," said Seth Hancock of Claiborne Farm, which co-owns Blame.

"She's a great horse, Zenyatta is. But she had her shot to get by, and she didn't do it. So I don't think you can vote for her."

Zenyatta's 19 consecutive wins tied her for most all-time with Peppers Pride, who retired last year after running against much lesser competition. Peppers Pride never raced outside New Mexico and all her wins came against fillies and mares.

"Zenyatta didn't lose anything," winning trainer Al Stall Jr. said. "I don't think you'll find anybody criticizing anything she's ever done, much less today. It was just two very good horses, and everybody talked about it coming down to these two for a long time. We were fortunate to have the right horse on the right day at the right time."

Instead of another merry jaunt to the winner's circle, the Mosses looked momentarily dazed.

"I thought she'd get there, but she just missed," he said. "She lost to a really good horse. We're real proud of her. She tried hard, she's the greatest."

All the great ones lose eventually.

Upset—like Blame, another aptly named winner—beat the unbeaten Man o'War, Triple Crown winner Secretariat was beaten; and Cigar won 16 in a row, but couldn't pull out one more.

During the two-day Breeders' Cup championships, American horses earned 12 victories while Europe-based horses won twice.

European import Goldikova successfully defended her title in the \$2 million Mile for the third consecutive year against 10 rivals, including nine boys. Dangerous Midge won the \$3 million Turf, and Pluck won the \$1 million Juvenile Turf.

Big Drama led all the way to win the \$2 million Sprint; Chamberlain Bridge won the \$1 million Turf Sprint; and 37-1 long shot Dakota Phone won the \$1 million Dirt Mile.

Uncle Mo won the \$2 million Juvenile, giving trainer Todd Pletcher his third win of the weekend.

In the Juvenile Turf, Rough Sailing was euthanized after breaking a major bone in his upper leg when he slipped and fell going into the first turn. Jockey Rosie Napravnik wasn't hurt.

Molinari stays in front of Westwood at HSBC



SHANGHAI (AP)—Francesco Molinari holed out for eagle from the 13th fairway, matched the lowest score of the third round and still had to make a 10-foot birdie putt on the last hole to keep the lead over Lee Westwood in the HSBC Champions on Saturday.

Westwood looked like he might finally catch up when he chipped from just off the green on the par-5 18th to tap-in range for birdie and a 5-under 67. Molinari, who had to lay up on the hole, knocked in his putt from the back of the green for a 67.

They have been separated by one shot after every round, and the duel figures to be settled Sunday at Sheshan International.

Molinari was at 14-under 202.

"It was a really eventful round, and it was a bit of a roller coaster, because I hit some great shots and some not-so-great shots," Molinari said. "All in all, I'm obviously very happy. To still be one in front of Lee going into Sunday, it's a really good position."

Luke Donald of England was about the only player keeping this from being a two-man race. He had a 68 and was four shots behind.

Westwood at least was assured of keeping his No. 1 ranking for another week as the other three players with a chance to overtake him faltered on a breezy afternoon.

Tiger Woods hooked his tee shot into the water on the par-5 second hole for the second straight day, and his back-to-back bogeys early in the round stalled him. He shot a 73 and was 11 shots out of the lead.

Barring a most improbable comeback, Woods will end his PGA Tour season without a victory for the first time in his career. He will have had 14 years with at least one victory, three years short of the record held by Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. And approaching his 35th birthday, this is not a streak he can start over.

"Not a very good day," Woods said. "I missed a lot of makable putts, didn't hit the ball very well and just never got anything going."

Defending champion Phil Mickelson also took bogey on the second hole, his from the trees, and shot a 76 to fall back to even-par 216. PGA champion Martin Kaymer had a 74 and was at 1-under 215.

This World Golf Championship event sure had a European feel to it in Shanghai.

The top six players are European Tour members. Ross Fisher rallied for a 69 and was in the group at 8-under 208 that included Emie Els (71) and Richie Ramsay (71).

Padraig Harrington was in the group at 6 under thanks to the shot of the tournament—he holed a fairway metal for an albatross on the par-5 14th hole, although he dropped two shots after that in his round of 70.

Els overcame a 38 on the front nine to at least give himself a chance of joining Woods and Mickelson as the only players to win two World Golf Championships in the same year.

Westwood had a chance to take the lead on the 16th with a chip into 4 feet for a great look at birdie. Molinari hit a poor wedge, then ran his birdie putt some 10 feet by the hole. But the

Italian saved his par, and Westwood missed his birdie.

Molinari and Westwood were tied early in the round, but Molinari kept his nose in front, then built a cushion with his soft 7-iron into the breeze from 160 yards on the 13th that cleared a ridge and rolled into the cup. He never saw it go in, tamping down his divot when he the roar from the gallery got his attention.

Westwood followed with a 9-iron to 6 feet for birdie, which at least kept him close.

For Molinari, it's another shot at No. 1.

He faced Woods in singles at the Ryder Cup, only to watch the former No. 1 put on a dazzling display of shotmaking. Woods was 9 under through 15 holes when he won the match.

Now he gets the new No. 1, and Molinari doesn't see much difference.

"It's quite similar," Molinari said. "They are both exceptional players. Tiger played really well at the Ryder Cup against me, and Lee is playing very well this week."

Westwood was thrilled to reach No. 1 in the world for the first time in his career, and he has quickly put that behind him. He said his only goal this week was to win a World Golf Championship, which he emphasized after having already answered the question.

Taking back the microphone in his news conference, Westwood added, "I see my name and the scores. And right now, I'm one behind."

He was most happy with keeping bogeys off his card, and with the fact his right ankle has felt as good as it has since he took his long breaks from tour the first week in August.

Wade, James, Bosh carry Heat past Nets



MIAMI (AP)—Terrance Williams sent LeBron James into the stands—and into overdrive.

Just like that, a close game turned into a Miami Heat runaway.

Dwyane Wade had 29 points and 10 rebounds, James scored 14 of his 23 points in the third quarter—seven in the last 32 seconds after getting flagrantly fouled by Williams—and the Heat rolled past New Jersey 101-89 on Saturday night for their second easy win over the Nets in a week.

A 25-10 run over the final 7 minutes of the third allowed the Heat to finally take control, sending the Nets to their fourth straight loss.

“We’re starting to get more of a comfort zone,” Wade said.

Wade and James had a few high-light-reel moments. James went behind-the-back, one of his nine assists, to set Wade up for a dunk late in the first half; Wade returned the favor on a lob—they’d been trying to get one of those all season—for a spectacular alley-oop on a 2-on-1 runout in the third quarter, prompting the two to meet in a twisting, side-bumping airborne celebration.

Then Williams really got James flying.

James was coming down the right side of the court in transition when Williams simply drove a shoulder, hockey-style, into the side of the NBA’s two-time reigning MVP. James toppled over the row of courtside photographers and into some of the most expensive seats in the house for an impromptu meet-and-greet with fans.

“I’ve been hit harder than that,” James said. “I played football in high school.”

Williams was called for a flagrant-one foul, James made one of the two ensuing free throws, then a 3-pointer on the extended possession. The next time down, James struck from 3-point range again to close the third quarter and give Miami an 87-68 lead and essentially put away the game.

“When people are going to the hole and throwing behind the back and dunking and stuff like that, you’ve got to do something about it,” Williams said.

Williams said he wasn’t trying to hurt James, but rather send a message.

“It didn’t send much of a message,” James said, “because we went on an 8-0 run after that.”

Chris Bosh scored a season-high 21 points for Miami, which started a six-game homestand. The Heat have held all seven opponents under 100 points, and did so again Saturday while shooting 49 percent.

“Guys played very hard tonight,” Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. “Without even looking at the scoreboard, you could just tell that we were making an impact on the game with our energy, our disposition, really active, particularly on the defensive end and it allowed us to get out in the open court. And guys were really playing with athleticism and speed.”

Anthony Morrow scored 25 for the Nets, who got 12 from Brook Lopez—who made three of his first four shots in the game’s opening 2:11, and went 2 for 12 the rest of the way. And Heat fans didn’t forgive Williams, either: He was booed every time he touched the



Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) shoots as New Jersey Nets center Brook Lopez (11) defends in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Miami, Saturday, Nov. 6, 2010.

ball the remainder of the evening.

For the seventh game of their season, the Heat were almost implored to take a Game 7 approach.

Spoelstra—who wasn’t thrilled with the “energy and effort,” two of his favorite buzzwords, in the early going of Miami’s loss at New Orleans on Friday night—wrote the word “desperate” six times on the massive whiteboard that covers a wall of the home locker room.

Miami didn’t exactly respond with that mantra in mind.

New Jersey ran out to a 12-5 lead and led for much of the game’s first 18 minutes, before a three-point play by Wade put the Heat ahead 40-39 with 5:47 left until halftime. Morrow’s jumper early in the third quarter tied the game at 55, but Carlos Arroyo scored on the next Heat possession and Miami wouldn’t trail again.

“We’ve got to play better defense, take better care of the basketball and have better third quarters,” Nets coach Avery Johnson said.

In other words, start clicking—the way the Heat did after halftime.

With two Nets players in front of him in transition, Wade made a nifty pass to James for a swooping left-handed layup and the foul, the three-point play putting Miami up 62-55. And the other “Big Three” guy got into the act on the next possession, with James finding Bosh for a dunk that was immediately followed by a long scream under the basket.

“Controlled rage,” Bosh said.

Magic 91, Bobcats 88

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Dwight

Howard had 22 points and eight rebounds, and Rashard Lewis scored 22 points as Orlando withstood Charlotte’s furious comeback attempt.

The Magic overcame Jameer Nelson sitting out with a sprained ankle and Vince Carter leaving the game with an injury late for their first road win of the season.

After trailing by 18 in the third quarter, the Bobcats got within 89-88 on Stephen Jackson’s driving layup with 32 seconds left. Quentin Richardson then answered with a runner in the lane with 9.8 seconds to go.

Gerald Wallace had 25 points and 14 rebounds for the Bobcats.

Cavaliers 107, Wizards 102

At Washington, Mo Williams scored 10 of his 28 points in the final four minutes to lead Cleveland over Washington.

In a wild game that featured 16 lead changes and 12 ties, Williams gave Cleveland the lead for good with two free throws with 2:07 to play, making it 97-95. Daniel Gibson, who had 19 points, followed with a 3-pointer with 1:33 to play for a five-point advantage.

Al Thornton scored 23 points and Kirk Hinrich 21 for Washington. Rookie John Wall had 13 points and 10 assists.

Spurs 124, Rockets 121, OT

At San Antonio, Tony Parker had 21 points and 14 assists, including seven points in overtime, as San Antonio kept Houston winless.

The only NBA team without a victory this season, the Rockets (0-5) are off to their worst start since 1999. They

might have more troubles ahead, too, after point guard Aaron Brooks was carried off the court at halftime with an injured left ankle.

Ginobili scored 28 points, and the Spurs withstood three 3-point tries by the Rockets in the frantic final 14.3 seconds of overtime.

Jazz 109, Clippers 107, 2 OT

At Salt Lake City, Deron Williams scored 30 points, making the tiebreaking layup with 6.8 seconds left in the second overtime, as Utah overcame an 18-point deficit to beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

Williams had 22 points after halftime, and Paul Millsap added 25 points and 13 rebounds. Al Jefferson finished with 18 points and 10 rebounds in Utah’s 15th consecutive home victory over the Clippers.

Eric Gordon scored 27 points and his slam dunk with 6.2 seconds left in regulation tied it at 91-91.

Hornets 87, Bucks 81

At Milwaukee, David West made 10-of-12 shots and scored a season-high 25 points as New Orleans remained unbeaten with a victory over Milwaukee.

Chris Paul and Marco Belinelli each added 14 for the Hornets, who at 6-0 are off to their best start in franchise history.

Andrew Bogut had 19 points and 14 rebounds in his return to the lineup for Milwaukee after missing Friday night’s game against the Indiana Pacers with a migraine. John Salmons added 14 points for the Bucks, who dropped to 2-5.

Nuggets 103, Mavericks 92

At Dallas, Carmelo Anthony scored 27

points as Denver went 13 for 21 from beyond the 3-point line in a victory over Dallas.

Chauncey Billups added 18 points and Al Harrington contributed 14 points and eight rebounds for Denver.

Jason Terry scored 26 points and Dirk Nowitzki had 23 for the Mavericks, who have lost two of their first three home games.

Blazers 97, Raptors 84

At Portland, Oregon, Brandon Roy scored 26 points, and LaMarcus Aldridge added 22 points and 10 rebounds as Portland cruised to a victory over Toronto.

Jarrett Jack had 16 points, and Andrea Bargnani, Leandro Barbosa and Jose Calderon all scored 12 for the Raptors (1-5), who finished a tough four-game West Coast trip winless and have lost five straight to Portland.

Nicolas Batum (20 points), Andre Miller (13 assists) and Marcus Camby (16 rebounds) all had season highs for the Blazers, who are 5-2 despite a recent spate of injuries. Camby started despite suffering from migraines in recent days.

Grizzlies 100, Kings 91

At Sacramento, California, Rudy Gay scored 32 points and Zach Randolph added 20 to help Memphis beat Sacramento.

Mike Conley and O.J. Mayo each had 14 points for the Grizzlies (3-4), who stopped a three-game losing streak. Randolph grabbed 11 rebounds and Gay had nine.

Tyreke Evans scored 30 points and Francisco Garcia had 21 off the bench for the Kings (3-3), who dropped their second straight game.

Bobcats’ Jackson fined \$50,000 for verbal abuse

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Charlotte Bobcats guard Stephen Jackson became the latest target of the NBA’s crackdown on behavior when he was fined \$50,000 on Saturday for verbally abusing the referees after a loss to Detroit a night earlier.

A defiant Jackson called the punishment undeserved and is considering an appeal.

“Everybody should be shocked —\$50,000?” Jackson said. “If you all saw what happened, \$50,000, that’s a lot of money. But welcome to the life of Stephen Jackson.”

Jackson was hit with a technical foul by referee Steve Javie late in the third quarter Friday, complaining he was fouled on a made basket. The fine was for his actions after the Pistons finished off a 97-90 victory.

“After the game, he made inappropriate comments towards the game officials,” NBA spokesman Tim Frank said, declining to give further details.

Jackson, though, said officials were “reading his lips,” an account seconded by Charlotte coach Larry Brown.

“I walked off the court upset about the outcome of the game,” Jackson said. “I guess they had a camera following me all the way to the tunnel and I wasn’t even in sight of the referees and read my lips. I guess I can’t

talk to myself. I got fined for talking to myself.”

The penalty comes as the NBA is cracking down on demonstrative actions by players—with Jackson providing an example of what the league wants changed.

Brown said Jackson flailing his arms was one of the first examples in a video distributed to teams before the season. Jackson has struggled with the new crackdown, getting called for two technical fouls in six games.

Jackson last season was called for 13 technical, tied for fifth-most in the NBA.

“People don’t like when you speak your mind,” Jackson said. “And they have the power to fine me or not fine me and they decided to. I can’t do nothing but to live with it. But I’m going to continue to speak my mind.”

Brown sided with his player after Saturday’s 91-88 loss to Orlando, saying officials should show the same respect for the game that the league is demanding of players. Brown was also called for a technical foul on Friday.

“It blows me away. For me to say, ‘Wow,’ and a (referee) to go, ‘I gotcha,’ there is no recourse,” Brown said. “They were lip-reading as he was walking 50-feet away. I just don’t know.”

Weekend Sports

Busy week for athletes

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

It's all play and fun last week with various competitions spread in different venues on the island.

At the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort, Trench Tech had its Trench Warz 13: Vengeance with majority of off-island fighters winning their bouts.

In the main event, Guam's Cody "Knucklehead" Cruz defeated home favorite Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan via split decision.

Eleven other fights were featured in Trench Warz 13, which had spectators having fun, as some of them came to the venue in their Halloween costume.

The weekend fun moved to Marpi when Saipan Ultimate hosted the Halloween Hat Frisbee Tournament at the Marpi Baseball Field.

The annual event drew five teams, which had their members wearing costumes while playing. Team 5 came out the winner of the event and took home the coveted Dale Roberts Cup.

Over at the REM Center in Gualo Rai, the Black Hawks continued to soar to the lead in the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament.

The Blacks Hawks won all their four assignments after Week 2 of the Traders tournament to lead the seven-

team field.

At the Hopwood Junior High School Field, MP United kept the lead in the boys U14 division after shutting out Shirley's Coffee Shop, 10-0. In the girls U14, Matansa is still on top after prevailing over Tan Holdings FC, 3-0, at the San Antonio Elementary School Field.

At the Oleai Sports Complex Field, MP United also stays on top in the boys U18 division after downing

Matansa, 7-3.

At the JP Center Basketball Court, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association kicked off the futsal fall league with four teams joining the competitive division and eight in the recreational. Matansa U18 and Independents opened the league and won their debuts in the recreational and competitive divisions, respectively.

At the Garapan Basketball Court, Ferrera Builders returned to form after

a 79-73 win over Wings Travel in the QQ Cup, which is nearing the playoff round. Also prevailing in the QQ caging was IT&E, which blasted Cellular Pro, 107-61.

Still in basketball, the Rotary caging continued with its U19 and U15 games. In the U19 division, the Sonics handed the Sparks their first loss, 53-48.

The Sonics also triumphed in the U15 division, beating Agape, 85-22. In other U15 games, Ol'Aces and Rollers B topped Rollers C, 45-31, and G-Stars, 45-11, respectively.

At the Marianas High School Gymnasium, the Lady Dolphins moved a win away from sweeping the regular season both in the varsity and junior varsity divisions, following twin wins over Saipan Southern High School.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Guam's Cody Cruz, right, throws a kick to the knee of Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan during Trench Warz 13: Vengeance's main event bout at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Team 3 sets up for a "pull" or throw-in to start up the action in the Halloween Hat Tournament championship game at the Marpi Baseball Field.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Rollers B's Irvyn Malonzo drives hard to the basket during their U15 game against the G-Stars in the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Participants in the 2010 Halloween Hat Frisbee Tournament pose for a group picture after the awards presentation at the Marpi Baseball Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Matansa U18 player, center, battles the ball against two Shirley's Coffee Shop defenders during their game in the recreational division of the women's futsal league last week at the JP Center Basketball Court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Paire, right, and KFAS players collide during their game in the NMIFA men's league last week at the Oleai Sports Complex.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Black Hawks' Angie Ito returns to the Orange Shuttle Masters during their game in the Traders Insurance badminton tournament at the REM Center last week.

Zenyatta falls short in quest for perfection

PAGE 24



Saipan Tribune

Sports

Busy week for athletes

PAGE 27

28 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Three-peat for Kagman Ayuyus

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kagman High School clinched its third straight volleyball title after sweeping Marianas High School 1 in the finals of the 2010-2011 MISO Boys Volleyball League last Saturday at the MHS Gymnasium.

The Ayuyus, who ruled the 2008 and 2009 seasons of the boys volleyball league, completed the three-peat after beating the Dolphins in straight sets, 25-12, 25-18.

"It feels great to defend the championship for the second straight time and win our third title with only three players from last year's championship team returning this year. I just told our players to work on our game in the net and make sure to guard their spots," said coach Emy Quitugua, who was also Kagman's mentor in the first two championships.

"We could not complete our roster during the regular season because of other commitments of some players. However, in the playoffs, we reminded the boys they should show up as the playoffs count the most," she added.

Kagman leaned on Kroy Ogo and Josh Jones strong play in the net to catch the tired and lethargic MHS players flatfooted.

The Dolphins came off a three-set semis win against regular season champion Saipan International School and ran out of steam in the finals, as the Dolphins could not get their kills in and were a step closer chasing the ball.

With the Dolphins struggling, Kagman race to a 14-4 lead in the opening

See **THREE** on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kagman High School's Josh Jones serves against Marianas High School during the second set of their title game in the MISO boys volleyball league last Saturday at the MHS Gymnasium.

Brand new car, \$15K at stake in Hyatt Golf Classic



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick Nishikawa, left, and Doug Brennan of Microl Toyota stand in front of one of the featured Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic's hole-in-one prizes, a Toyota Yaris.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The 15th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic will be held this Saturday on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort with a brand new car and cash prize of \$15,000 at stake in the weekend tournament.

The cash prizes and Toyota Yaris courtesy of IP&E and Microl, respectively, are up for grabs in hole-in-one contests. Cash prizes also await the Top 3 placers in the annual tournament, which will have a 4-person scramble format and double peoria handicap system.

Players may sign up individually and be randomly assigned to a team or enter as their own foursome group. The scramble will employ a best ball style of play where after each shot, the team will decide which of the four balls they wish to play.

See **BRAND** on Page 26

Mieko rules Ride 'Round Ridge

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



For a change, a men-dominated mountain bike race had a woman as top finisher.

Mieko Carey crossed first the finish line of the championship course in the 2010 Ride 'Round the Ridge, beating male bikers Jazy Garcia and Butch Sublemente.

Carey completed the Saturday mountain bike race in one hour, 14 minutes and 39 seconds to emerge the top overall finisher in the championship course.

"It was still a good race despite of the muddy and slippery trails. I really enjoyed it and I am glad I won and still had the legs to join this race after XTERRA World," said Carey, who finished 13th in the 2010 XTERRA World Championship in Maui on Oct. 24.

Carey reached the finish line of the 'Round the Ridge—the Radar Station—about a minute ahead of Garcia and Sublemente. The two male riders were leading the race after one lap, but Carey caught up with them at the Kimikaze trail in the second lap en

See **MIKO** on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mieko Carey gasps for air after completing the 2010 Ride 'Round the Ridge last Saturday.

Pacific Grocers takes last playoffs seat

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Pacific Grocers defeated last place Westerners, 87-73, to sneak into the playoff round of the QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup, which wrapped up its season last Friday at the Gapanan Elementary School.

Buraot (4-4), and Atalig Associates (4-4) also won their respective

See **PACIFIC** on Page 26

Pacific Grocers guard Eugene Mangali slices through a double team and looks for an open teammate during their game against Westerners in the QQ Car Rental Cup last Friday at the Gapanan Basketball Court.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

